

THE UNIFICATION AND REGISTRATION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION.

By JOHN W. SIMPSON, *Membre Corr. de l'Institut de France.*

Address delivered at the Royal Institute of British Architects' Conference at Liverpool, 24th June 1921.

IHAVE been asked to say a few words about the Unification and Registration of our profession, with regard to which I have been privileged to play a leading part during the term of my Presideney.

As you know, I came into office immediately after the signing of peace in 1919, and found myself at the head of a Council of whose activity and energy it is impossible to speak too highly. With such an instrument at my disposal, and the support and goodwill of an extraordinarily loyal profession at my back, it seemed clear that the time had come to attempt that reconstruction of our organisation which had long been felt necessary. There was much latent dissatisfaction, especially among the younger men. It was felt that had the profession been able to speak with a single voice, we could have made it heard with far more effect than we did during the war, and in the initial stages of national reconstruction. Architects were divided into two main groups engaged upon more or less the same work, and these, though not perhaps actually hostile to one another, were in a position of rivalry. Instead of bringing their united weight to bear on subjects of importance to the profession, their force was dissipated in desultory efforts, sometimes not even in the same direction. The Royal Institute and the Society were harmful to one another, and the lack of a single and representative headship paralysed all attempts of the profession to intervene in public matters with the effect to which its numbers, and its importance in our social system, entitled it. The Institute itself needed knitting up far more closely with its offspring, the Allied Societies.

This want of harmony of which I have spoken was, however, but relative and superficial. The profession, as I have just said, is extraordinarily loyal, very free from jealousy, and ready and willing to work together for the common good. We have only to look for a moment at the divisions which ravage other liberal professions to see, with a justifiable complacence, that we are already far more advanced than they towards the ideal of unity; that our task is, in comparison with theirs, a light one; and that we are actually on the verge of achieving such a solid and effectual organisation of British architects, as exists in no other profession in the world. It is a great and inspiring thought. The accomplishment is within our reach at this moment. Let us put aside any small differences of opinion as to methods, and make one final, courageous step—all together—to make the Royal Institute of British Architects the single organisation for the whole profession. The effort is well worth while. We are already unique—the greatest, most effectively organised, body of architects in

the world. In no other country has our profession attained such authority as the Royal Institute has achieved in this. It controls the whole architectural education in the Universities and Schools of the Empire; dispenses great honours; enables the great architects of the world by the award of the Royal Gold Medal; sets the standards of remuneration of professional conduct, of examination, for all architects of the Kingdom; and, after revolutionising the conduct of architectural competitions, is now able to, and does, dictate just and reasonable terms for its members to every Government and Municipal authority with regard thereto.

With Unity must come Registration—the closing of this great profession, whose proper practice needs long and costly training, to the unqualified quack. I do not propose to await the dilatory methods of Parliament, before getting Registration in hand. True, we shall need an Act to legalise it, and as soon as the final touches are put to Unification, we must get our Bill drafted, and push it forward. But it may take some time to get it through both Houses; and there is no reason why we should not set up the Register at once, with our own Registrar, and have a machinery in working order to which the Government will only need to give legal confirmation. It will supply the strongest possible evidence that the thing we ask for is needed, is practicable, and that reputable architects are unanimous in demanding it.

Matters have moved so rapidly during the past two years, that it may be convenient, at this moment, to recall the steps by which we have advanced to the point at which we now find ourselves.

At the very first meeting of my first Council, it was resolved, unanimously, to make a fresh effort to unify the profession: a resolution which was acclaimed by the whole professional press. Next, a General Meeting of the Royal Institute appointed representatives of every architectural body in the Empire, of the different classes of the Institute, of the Assistants' Union, and of architects unattached to any Society, to form a Committee which should proceed to organise the Unification and Registration of the profession. This Committee was naturally a very large one. It met for the first time, an occasion which will I think be marked hereafter as historical, on 20th July 1920; and appointed as its Chairman the President of the Royal Institute, and as Vice-Chairman the President of the Society, with the Hon. Secretary of the Institute as its Hon. Secretary. I take this opportunity of acknowledging with profound gratitude, the loyal support I have received from these two colleagues, Sir Chas. Ruthen and Mr. Keen. The hard work these gentlemen have done is known but to few, but it has entitled them to the hearty thanks of their profession.

The proceedings of the Committee were notable for complete, and perhaps unexpected, absence of discord; they there and then set up a Sub-Committee to work out details, and elected its members, to the number of nineteen. Two alternative proposals were discussed and referred to the Sub-Committee: the *first*, the absorption of all architects into one great body; the *second*, the federation of the existing bodies, and the formation of a central Council of their representatives.

With no loss of time the Sub-Committee set to work, the record of their discussions forming a substantial volume. On 8th April they produced the expected report on the machinery for working out the two alternative proposals, which have become known as "Scheme A" and "Scheme B." In order to prevent delay, this Report was communicated at once to all members of the parent Committee, so that they might be able to consult their constituents upon it, before meeting to receive it formally.

The main Committee met again on 12th May last, and proceeded to discuss the Report. It is worth noting that this Committee has adopted the methods of the new diplomacy, approved of—but not followed by—the Peace Conference. Their meetings have not been private, but open to the press, with the result that the whole course of their discussion can be followed in the published reports. The result has fully justified the procedure.

After full debate, the principle of "Scheme A" was adopted, *nemine contradicente*; and the following resolutions were passed:—

- (1) That the principle of Scheme A—namely, the bringing of all the Architects of the United Kingdom into membership of the R.I.B.A.—be adopted as the basis for unification.
- (2) That the matter be referred to the Sub-Committee to consider details and report to the Main Committee.
- (3) That the Committee recommend the Royal Institute to draft such alterations to its Charter and By-laws as may be necessary to comply with the principle of Scheme A, adopted this day by the Unification and Registration Committee, and to confer with the Council of the Society of Architects as to conditions of membership.
- (4) That six additional representatives of the Allied Societies be selected by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman from the members of the Main Committee to serve upon the Sub-Committee.

The effect of these resolutions is that the Society of Architects has agreed to amalgamate with the Royal Institute, and form one great Organisation ; subject only to satisfactory arrangements with regard to classification.

The Council of the Royal Institute immediately accepted these resolutions, appointed a Committee to draft the alterations in the Charter and By-Laws needed to give effect to them, and directed a conference with the Society to arrange details.

In the meantime, the Associates of the Institute had met Mr. Keen and myself to talk over the position, in so far as it concerns their own class. As you know, a scheme had been prepared for fusion of the Royal Institute and the Society in 1911 ; this proved abortive by reason of the opposition especially of the Associate class, which now consists, practically, wholly of men who have passed the Examinations. I felt therefore that they had a right to be consulted as to their views, before we went too far. It is pleasant to record that a high note of responsibility was struck at this meeting. The great importance of the movement was fully recognised, and the fact that some self-sacrifice was necessary by members of the Royal Institute in order to attain the end in view. I am convinced that we have the Associates behind us in our efforts.

The President and Secretary of the Society, with Mr. Sadgrove, their Past-President, have, since that, met the Royal Institute Committee, and agreed general lines with them.

It is felt that it is undesirable to make any serious alteration to the Associates class. A certain number of undoubtedly qualified members of the Society will join us as Fellows of the Royal Institute, others will join a new Class of " Members R.I.B.A." in which we propose to incorporate our own Licentiates. Members of Allied Societies, on the report of their Councils, will be admitted to the same Class, also unattached qualified men after scrutiny by the Council of the R.I.B.A. In order to strengthen the Associates class, we propose to institute a special examination for " Members " desiring admission thereto—from Associates they can proceed to the Fellowship subject to the present qualifying requirements. The " Members " class is to be closed after a certain limited period of invitation, and will thus expire in course of time, leaving two permanent degrees of membership of the Royal Institute—the Fellows, and the Associates. During their existence they will have voting powers, of what exact degree is not yet determined.

Such is the general outline of the situation at the present date. The details have still to come before the Council, but it is well that you should know how far we have come along this long road—a road with far less numerous obstacles than we once feared. I do not hope that everyone will be entirely satisfied with everything proposed. There are always some who hesitate to take the necessary step, always some who criticise and raise objections—very useful people they are, too. But it is only by the sacrifice of some of our own pet views—we are all ready to sacrifice the views of others—that we shall attain real solidity and unity. We have never been so near it as on this 24th day of June 1921. The finishing touches only are wanted to complete the structure we have together raised, with such pains and mutual forbearance. Who shall dare take the responsibility of wrecking—on any selfish, any personal grounds—the Temple of Concord we are erecting, not for ourselves, but for the future good of those who follow us ?

DISCUSSION ON THE FOREGOING ADDRESS.

Mr. HASTWELL GRAYSON [F.] (Liverpool) said the President was quite right in saying that what had taken place in the period he had reviewed had been far and away the most important on matters architectural that had ever taken place, and they owed a great deal to him. He thought two things very greatly in Mr. Simpson's favour were : (1) that he had got the Institute more into touch with the provinces, and incidentally the provinces more into touch with the Institute ; and (2) he had advanced registration a stage further. In the provinces they were convinced registrationists long before they were in London, but registration seemed hopeless without unification. They all felt that unification must be put in hand. No one liked it, but it was absolutely necessary. The recent discussion in Parliament on the Dentists Bill showed how everything depended on unity. One of the things the President had done was to get into touch with the Associates. It was absolutely necessary to carry the younger men, who were a strong and live force. So far as he understood the proposals, the Associates and younger men generally in the provinces would think very much as the Associates who recently met the President and Mr. Keen. They were extremely indebted to Mr. Simpson for initiating the Conference, and for giving them so lucid an explanation of a subject which bristled with difficulties. If they could get registration through in the next six or eight years he (Mr. Grayson) would be very well content.

Mr. GILBERT FRASER [F.] (Liverpool) said he always felt that the serious trouble, which seemed now to have disappeared, in connection with unification was the Society of Architects ; it was very pleasant indeed to know that the Society had practically agreed to throw in its lot with the Royal Institute, and make one headquarters and one governing body. He thought, on behalf of the Liverpool Society of Architects, he was justified in saying that they in Liverpool would give whole-hearted support, because they were all very keen to see unity in the profession and to see themselves enrolled with the governing body.

Mr. H. T. BUCKLAND [F.] (Birmingham) said they all realised that registration involved the roping in of the whole of the profession. It looked rather like a man who had been convinced that he had got a disease which had to be remedied, and as soon as he was told he was to take the medicine he began to jib. He thought they would find that that would be the case with a large number of members of the Institute, particularly the Associate class. He thought it deplorable that any responsible architects should sign their names to such a letter as had recently appeared in the professional Press. Two of the signatories of that letter were Vice-Presidents of the Institute. He did not call it cricket that men who had been associated with the Committee which had prepared the scheme of unification should write a letter like that to the Press, a letter which could not fail to do harm. If the scheme went through, as he heartily hoped it would, they would all have to acknowledge a very great debt of gratitude to the President for the work he had done in connection with the matter.

Mr. THOS. R. MILBURN [F.] (Sunderland) said that they in the North were very pleased with the unification scheme. The only difficulty that appeared to him was the distinction between Members and Associates, the absence of sufficient reward for work, and the expense of education.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD [F.] said the members of the Council of the Institute appreciated what the President had done to bring this matter to the very satisfactory issue which he had set out. It seemed they had come to two interesting points—one was a stage in the procedure where it must be left to very careful diplomacy as to arranging

terms with the Society of Architects, and he thought the best thing they could do was to leave it with those who were dealing with it without disturbing the negotiations at this stage ; and the second one, which was more important still, was gently to remind the Associates that in the past a great deal of opposition had come from that body, and that, if there was a unanimous wish on the part of the whole profession generally to bring about unification in so far as they possibly could, the Associates should approach the matter in a conciliatory attitude.

Mr. STANLEY HAMP [A.] said the Associates' Committee had sat once, and were now waiting to receive suggestions or help from the Associates throughout the country. They would meet again next week, and it was hoped that the provincial societies would, as far as possible, give their views, so that they might, in drawing up the report to be received by the Associates, represent fully the feelings of the Associate class. He was quite sure that any suggestion brought before that Committee would be very carefully considered and the proposal would come forth with the unanimous support of that Committee. It was hoped that all the Associates would accept the verdict and support the decision. The whole matter would be thoroughly thrashed out and the interests of the Associates would be taken very seriously to heart. Most of the Associates had worked and studied hard to pass the examination, and that, perhaps, was one of the great reasons why the Associates were anxious that the honour they had gained through their hard work should not be lightly or unduly sacrificed.

Mr. ARTHUR KEEN [F.], referring to the letter which had appeared in the Press on the subject of registration, said he was quite at a loss to understand the purpose of that letter. It was totally inaccurate in its facts, and he could not see why it had been put forward. He had written a reply which would be sent to the leading societies. In the first place the letter said the proposal was to bring all architects in to the Institute, which was quite incorrect. The intention was to invite all qualified architects to make application to enter the class for which they were qualified. The letter went on to say there was no reference made to registration in the Report issued by the Committee. As a matter of fact, the subject of registration was referred to again and again, and it was pointed out clearly that steps had been taken. Therefore it was, in his judgment, totally inaccurate and misleading, and ought never to have been written.

Major H. C. CORLETTE [F.] said there was one point only in which he was particularly interested, because he did not represent any body or party in the United Kingdom. He would like all members of the Institute, of the Society, and all men who were architects but were members of no society, to realise that there was an Empire, and that there were Dominions beyond the seas which had architects who were members of the Royal Institute amongst them, and they wanted in those Dominions to realise unity quite as much as architects did in this country.

The PRESIDENT, in reply, said the unanimity of the meeting did the profession enormous credit. There was no other profession in which people of diverse views would discuss such a question without an atom of bitterness and with a whole-hearted desire to attain the one end they had in view. He did not attach much importance to the letter which was sent to the papers, because there were always people who hesitated ; but so long as they all reached the desired end it did not matter how they started. They might not be able to meet every little objection—it was not at all likely that everybody would agree to everything—but they would all agree on the main things which mattered, and with a little spirit of give and take and self-sacrifice he was sure they could adjust such minor differences as existed.

OFFICIAL ARCHITECTURE.

By MAURICE E. WEBB, D.S.O., M.C. [F.]

Read before the Liverpool Conference of Architects, 25th June.

In accepting an invitation to address this Conference upon the subject of "Official Architecture" I did so with considerable reluctance, well knowing that it is a thorny subject. At the same time it is one which must be faced both by architects in private practice and by those who are employed as architects by the Government and municipalities all over the country. In any discussion which may follow this paper, which is limited by order to 15 minutes, we shall all remember that any grievances which private architects may have against the architectural bureaucracies that are now increasing in numbers and size are due to the system and not to the individual. I am not sure that the official architect is not in many cases the person with the greater grievance, as he is frequently employed to do work at a salary altogether incommensurate with his ability and the importance of his work.

It is clearly open to every man to choose between the risk of making for himself a practice or entering into a salaried contract with a public body. The Royal Institute has a clear duty to perform in the case of either, for we must see that every avenue is kept open for the young architect, by competitions or other honourable means, to make for himself a private practice, and also that the terms of employment of architects by public bodies are fair and equitable and that the men are qualified to perform the duties expected of them. But beyond either of these it is the duty of the Royal Institute, for the good both of the public and of the profession, to do all in its power to assist in promoting the finest architecture. At the present time I think I am on safe ground in saying that not only architects but everyone who is interested in the cities in which they dwell are all over the country becoming alarmed at the enormous growth since the war of Architectural Departments in official bodies, and are asking themselves whether this is going to make for the best architectural results. Evidence that the public is becoming genuinely interested in the architecture of their cities is shown by the growing membership of the London Society, which was formed in recent years by Londoners to watch over matters which affect or may affect the amenities of their city. The best known and the largest of these public departments is, of course, the Office of Works, now controlled by a new and sympathetic First Commissioner in the person of Lord Crawford, an Honorary Fellow of this Institute. I quote this department as it is, I believe, the instigator of official architecture in this country, and what the Office of Works does to-day municipalities will do to-morrow.

This department of State was founded in 1852 for the maintenance of public buildings, royal palaces, royal parks, etc., and as time went on it was entrusted with the design and erection of certain public buildings

of a special character, such as post offices. I think it will be recognised that under any form of government some such department is essential for this maintenance and repair work, for preliminary surveys and the supervision of estimates and contracts and general administrative duties. Of recent years, however, the Office of Works has shown signs of exceeding these duties. But during the war, owing to the need of conserving and regulating the supply and use of building materials, the Office of Works had many other duties thrown upon it—e.g., the designing and building of factories and the provision of various arrangements for our fighting forces in England and France. No architect was ever heard to grumble at their taking over such work during that difficult time. That they did the work well, though at a cost which will never be known accurately, is admitted, but, with one or two exceptions, I do not think the credit for it ever filtered through, as far as the public is concerned, to the individual designers; and that, to my mind, is one of the principal objections to official architecture, upon which I will touch later.

The point we are considering at the moment is that these developments resulted in an increase of staff of from 384 in 1913 to 581 in 1920, and in the estimates for the ensuing year it has risen to 997, nearly three times the pre-war number; while in one year, 1919-20, the salary list for this class of employee alone had risen from £278,000 to £455,000. Some of this post-war increase is, of course, due to housing, of which the Office of Works and other municipalities have endeavoured to secure the lion's share—work which can hardly be said to come within the sphere of a State Department in normal times, and will no doubt be dropped when the need for more houses is over. Dr. Addison was the pilot of these schemes. Now that the Government have dropped the pilot it is to be hoped that the course is clear for private enterprise again to take the helm. Many of us think that this work should not have been undertaken by the Government, and that they have placed a needless burden on the taxpayer by doing so. The enormous increase in staff in the Office of Works is reflected in the establishment of similar but smaller staffs all over the country. For instance, I understand that in this city the whole of the housing is being carried out officially. Nearly every County Council or municipal authority of any importance has followed the lead of the Office of Works and set up departments to deal with housing; housing directors, assistant directors, commissioners and other new officials have sprung up like mushrooms. Are they really necessary, and when the need for housing is over what will become of them? Is not the danger very real that other architectural work will be found for them at the taxpayers' expense? Already there are signs of this happening in London, though I believe the present need for economy has for the moment nipped some ambitious schemes in the bud. A recent Cabinet Order, I understand, laid it down that the Office of Works should act for all the

departments of State except the three fighting forces, but already, almost before the ink with which that Order was written was dry, designs were prepared in the department for a Royal Air Force College at Cranwell. Their design for a pylon at Hyde Park Corner will not soon be forgotten, and I believe that designs have also been prepared for a building to extend the accommodation of Somerset House on an adjoining site. A great building for the Ministry of Pensions is actually in course of erection from their designs. Recently, since the Government has declared foreconomy, it has, I believe, been decided to give up the architectural or building departments of the three fighting services and hand over all building work required by them, as well as the other departments, to the tender mercies of the Office of Works. What that means you can guess. If the Office of Works decide to keep all new work in their own office, it means an enormous extension of official architecture, further increases of staff, and a very serious blow to the practice of private architects in this country. These are all portents of what we may expect, and we may further expect a similar sort of expansion of the duties of other official architectural bodies all over the country, with the consequent increases of staff and salaries of which the taxpayer has had considerable experience recently in other cases.

In the time at my disposal I have only been able to touch very broadly on the growth and expansion of the Office of Works as the prototype, and have avoided any details which might lead into the more thorny by-paths of acrimonious discussion rather than the broad highway of general principle to which I have tried to adhere. The broad questions before the Conference are these. First, do we as architects believe that the finest architecture is produced, or is likely to be produced, by a system of private enterprise or of State officialdom? It would be possible to say a great deal on the unfair competition which arises when architects have to compete for work with corporations and municipalities who have the power and money behind them. It would be possible to say even more on the hardships which architects suffered during the war by reason of the enforced stoppage of private work, and since the war owing to the ridiculous restrictions on so-called luxury buildings, which have done more than anything else to handicap the return to normality in the building trade; but these are largely matters of past history now, and the question I have asked is the one that really matters, and in which we may expect the public to take real interest. I am glad that this topic should be raised in this city, because you have here the two great buildings of Elmes and Scott which help to make it famous, both of which are the product of individual genius, and both of which gave the opportunity to young men, by open competition, of making their mark in the world and of placing their names on the roll of England's great architects. Could either have done this, working as part of a Government or municipal machine? That is a question not for me but for this Conference to answer.

The next question I should like to ask the Conference to consider is this: What part does official architecture play in assisting the profession to raise the standard of education in architecture? There is a golden opportunity, but has it been taken? In France the winner of the Prix de Rome is on his return given some building of public importance to look after, just a sufficient start for a young man entering on his life's career. Here in England I have not heard of any Government or Municipal scheme of this sort. Again, I am glad that this question arises in Liverpool, as it was in your school under Professor Reilly that Mr. Bradshaw, the first English Prix de Rome winner, received his architectural education. To help men of this calibre when starting by giving them independent positions of trust under the local authorities without interfering with their private work would be, I submit, of great benefit to the country and of great honour to the officials who originate it.

One last question. Is there not a danger lest the great incentive of competition be lost in an official architecture? Most men who are men have ambition to excel. In any art an artist who is worth his salt believes in his work and is proud of it. He likes to have it recognised as his. He resents it being labelled L.C.C. or Office of Works. I cannot help thinking that any system which does that is, *ipso facto*, bad, and I believe that the time will come when the Royal Institute will have to insist that any member of the Institute who works for a firm—and many big firms now, as you know, have large architectural staffs—for a Government Department or for a Municipality, must only do so on the understanding that his name is attached as the designer of the building, and that he is properly recognised as its author. Again, I am glad that this point should be raised in Liverpool because you have here one of the finest examples of modern commercial buildings in the world in the Cunard Building we are to see to-day, and although I feel sure there is an architect's department in this shipping organisation for administrative duties, there has been no attempt to obscure in its officialdom the names of the distinguished architects of their Liverpool offices—Messrs. Willink and Thickness. Where in my opinion the officials who had the control of the whole of the site of this and the adjoining buildings made a mistake was in allowing the three to be designed and placed as they have been. Here was an opportunity for official architecture to function in a legitimate way and lay down the broad principles upon which this site, the gateway of England from America, was to be laid out. Americans, at their first landing in England, would then have been spared the conglomeration of towers and domes which display no sign of any attempt at composition and have no relation with each other or anything else.

This paper is but a rudimentary sketch of my thoughts on Official Architecture: it is for you to express an opinion on the effect of the growth which such architecture may have upon our art; it is for you to

protest against its growth if you think fit or, if you prefer, to stimulate it. Whatever your decision is, it will carry great weight among your professional brethren in London, and if you can make it known to a wider and more important public I believe it will have important results. It is, at any rate, a subject of whom the First Aid Nurse would say "Give him air." I have endeavoured to do so without raising a storm. If there are any official architects present, as I hope there are, they will perhaps answer the questions I have raised, realising always that it is a difficult task to read a paper dealing with two branches of a tree which spring from the same root and grow different-coloured flowers. It would be simple to a botanist; to an architect it presents a problem which in many years has found no satisfactory solution.

Mr. W. E. WILLINK [F.] in opening the discussion, said Mr. Webb admitted it was appropriate that there should be qualified men to attend to architectural problems which occur in connection with any great organisation, and they all admitted that was the case. The great question was, was it good that official architecture should be conducted as it appeared to be going to be conducted in future? It must be remembered that all those public affairs, whether municipal or Parliamentary, were governed by people who were elected; they had their own views as to how things should be done, and they were not, unfortunately, guided by those who had professional experience or high professional standards. The first thing that entered the mind of the ordinary man when he had to decide whether a building should be put up by an official or a private architect, was the question of money. Was it not cheaper to have work done by the official architect? The London County Council a few years ago had a difficulty with regard to one of its jobs which cost a good deal more than it ought to have done, but there was another job which cost less than it was expected to, and the loss on the one was put against the gain on the other, and the two were shown together. That made it extremely difficult to arrive at any question of cost. People who worked for Government departments worked very differently from those who worked for private individuals, and once a man was employed on Government work or official work it was extremely difficult to get him out of office for a long time after he was really required. There was very little doubt that all Government offices, without exception, were very much larger than they ought to be, and consequently they were more expensive. The experience during the war of bad management in high quarters was such that the nation ought to be wary of the danger of professional work done in a bureaucratic manner. There was another question which came into the mind of the elected man, and it was this: If a number of schools, a post office, houses, or even lavatories, were to be erected, was it not better to have them all done by one man who by his experience knew what ought to be done in technically fitting up such places? That, he thought, had an element of truth in it. The solution of the question might very well lie in collaboration; he could not see why it should not be possible to utilise the experience of the Office of Works, or any other official architectural department, in the details of the work, which might not be solved in the best way if put out to a private architect. He thought the meeting might, reasonably and properly, pass a resolution to the effect that the Conference views with deep and increasing anxiety the development of the official architect.

Major H. C. CORLETTE [F.] said he thought they should deal with the matter more from the point of view of the private citizen who was suffering from official architecture, and they might arrive at some means by which they could persuade the electors that it would be in the interests of

the public at large if some other method were devised by which public buildings were put up. If they attacked the question from the point of view that it was uneconomic he thought they would get the public to understand a good deal more of what it meant to them than if they attacked it from the point of view of architecture pure and simple.

Mr. H. L. BECKWITH (a member of the Liverpool Corporation) said the Liverpool Corporation had increased the work which had been given out from the Corporation, but a great deal more work might be put out, to the benefit of everybody and the community at large. It was very fitting that such a resolution as had been referred to should be passed by the meeting, and he was sure it would receive sympathetic hearing by the Liverpool Corporation.

Professor ABERCROMBIE [A.] said that one section of Mr. Webb's Paper seemed rather to confuse housing schemes with the question of official architecture. They were not there to criticise the housing scheme, but the employment of architects under that scheme, and he thought the Royal Institute did not take as strong a line as it might have done at the outset. The Royal Institute got a schedule of prices and charges arranged, but they did not see that that matter was carried out as it ought to have been done, and enforced on the Local Authorities by the Housing Commissioners.

Professor S. D. ADSHEAD [F.] said there was no doubt that the present was an opportune moment to take the matter in hand, and the profession should do so in an uncertain manner. They must first deal with it themselves, and make up their minds as to what they wanted, and then take the public into their confidence. If they could get the public behind them they would have done something really practical in getting architectural work back into their own hands and in putting the Office of Works in the place which it occupied some fifty years ago.

The following resolution was formally moved by Mr. Willink, seconded by Major Corlette, and unanimously carried: "That this Congress views with deep and growing apprehension the methods of the Office of Works and other official bodies with regard to the designing of buildings to be erected by public funds." It was decided to forward the resolution to the Council of the Royal Institute to deal with in London.

BUILDING CONTRACTS.

Paper and Discussion at the Liverpool Conference.

Mr. SEARLES-WOOD, in opening his Paper on "Building Contracts" at the Liverpool Conference, stated that at a Conference between representatives of the Royal Institute of British Architects, the Society of Architects, the Surveyors' Institution, the Quantity Surveyors' Association, the Institute of Builders, and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, held at the R.I.B.A. on the 9th May, the President of the Royal Institute in the Chair, it was Resolved "That a new Form of Conditions of Contract between Employers and Builders should be drawn up for general use in England and Wales." Mr. Searles-Wood went on to say that in view of this Resolution it was thought that a discussion on Conditions of Contract would be of interest to the Conference. His Paper consisted mainly of extracts from Captain E. J. Rimmer's Paper, "Legal Difficulties in the Administration of a Building Contract," read before the Royal Institute in March, 1919, and published in the JOURNAL R.I.B.A. for June of that year, the Paper dealing principally with the various Forms of Contract used during the war. Mr. Searles-Wood said that the

R.I.B.A. Lump Sum Contract gave the architect's view of what the Conditions of Contract should be. It stood to-day as the accepted form which had been found to work satisfactorily for forty years. That some form of Lump Sum Contract must be found if the building public was to undertake building schemes was certain. All the other forms referred to in Capt. Rimmer's Paper had been tried during the war, with the result that their clients had found building so expensive that work was practically at a standstill. In conclusion, Mr. Searles-Wood quoted the resolution passed by the Conference above mentioned at their second meeting, viz. :—

The R.I.B.A., the Society of Architects, the Surveyors' Institution, the Quantity Surveyors' Association, the Institute of Builders and the National Federation of Building Trades Employers, are together giving their attention to the preparation of an agreed Form of Conditions of Contract for the Building Trade to be applicable to England and Wales. Their consideration of this leads them to feel that it would be wise to enlist the co-operation of all employing bodies and other interested parties including the State. They recommend the bodies above mentioned to ask for assistance in this, and, to this end, to request the Government to appoint an independent Chairman, who shall be assisted by two Assessors (one of whom shall be an architect appointed by the above-mentioned architectural bodies and the other a builder appointed by the above-mentioned Builders' Associations) to form a Tribunal; this Tribunal to convene a Conference composed of the already appointed representatives of the above-mentioned parties, together, if necessary, with representatives not exceeding six of any other bodies, to whom shall be entrusted the task of preparing the document as far as possible by agreement, and the Tribunal shall have referred to them for final decision any points of difference.

Mr. Searles-Wood explained that the reason for asking the Government to appoint the Chairman was to endeavour to have the Departments of State and the Municipal Authorities represented on the Committee which will draw up the Conditions of Contract, by which means it was hoped that the Conditions of Contract will be recognised as Standard Conditions, and any departure from the Standard Form will have to be justified. It was, of course, impossible to make the Conditions of Contract compulsory without an Act of Parliament, and it would not be possible to get such an Act. But a strong position could be made for the Standard Contract if the Government representing the public interests and the great spending departments of the State joined in the preparation of it.

The CHAIRMAN of the Meeting said they were fortunate in having a contractor with them, and he would ask Mr. Costain to open the discussion.

Mr. R. COSTAIN said it was with a certain amount of confidence and a certain amount of satisfaction that he responded to the invitation to open the discussion. The reading of the Paper had enhanced this satisfaction because Mr. Searles-Wood had embodied so excellently worded, so fair-minded and so exhaustive a summary as that which Captain Rimmer had read to the Institute, and it was satisfactory to find that so much progress had been made towards arriving at a new form of contract by general agreement. It would be recognised by all that a matter of

this kind was a question of points of view, and he took it that the object of the architect in drawing up the form of contract was to secure the employer against having to pay to the contractor or whoever carried out the work—a body of workmen it might be if done by direct labour—what was an unreasonable amount of money. The contractor looked at it from the other point of view, and what he wanted to know was: How much money was going to be left for him after the work was carried out and all accounts paid. Between those two gentlemen, the employer on the one side and the contractor on the other, the architect came in. But the architect had a much greater responsibility than was outlined in the Paper. Mr. Searles-Wood rather suggested that the architect was the gentleman who made out intermediate certificates, but he suggested that the architect was the man in whose mind the building was first created; and in order to have that idea of his carried out for the money the employer was prepared to find, the architect must secure some contractor who would undertake the work. The contractor must know, or desired to know, three things: what he had got to do, what it was going to cost and what he was going to get for it. The ideal form of contract would make the contractor a wiser man than the architect, because the architect had not the ghost of an idea what would turn up in the course of carrying out the work; and as the architect was so much in the dark, how much more so was the contractor, and he submitted that if the architect was desirous, as of course he was, of securing for the employer a fair deal, he would take every possible step to see that sufficient information was given to the contractor in his drawings, specifications and quantities, and also in the carrying out of the work, so that no greater burden was put upon the contractor than the contractor might reasonably expect in the preparation of his estimate. Mr. Searles-Wood stated that for forty years the Royal Institute of British Architects' Contract had worked satisfactorily. He (Mr. Costain) admitted that in ninety per cent. of cases perhaps it did work satisfactorily. In the case of reasonable men there was no reason why the standard form should not work satisfactorily. There had often been cases in which the shoe pinched on both sides, and in other cases it had been due to unreasonableness on one side or the other, and he was prepared to admit, if they would admit that there were unreasonable architects, that there were also unreasonable contractors. If this document had really worked so satisfactorily why should it have been revised on such a scale as it had been? Fair conditions as between the employer and the contractor were in the interests of the employer because the latter, taken as a whole, paid for the unreasonable conditions embodied in forms of contract. That would be driven home very clearly by two instances he would recall, in which officials of public bodies were concerned. In one case he went as a member of a representative body and in the other case he was on his own behalf, and in each case the clerk to the public body did his best to convince the architect of the public body that the public body as an employer over a period of years would be bound to pay for any unreasonable conditions that the architect insisted on putting in his form of contract or specification. His (the speaker's) point was that the architect was acting on behalf of the employer in securing such a contract as was necessary to ensure that the employer had fair value for his money, and that unreasonable conditions of contract would be paid for by the employer over the period of time covered by the conditions.

The CHAIRMAN thought the subject was one for intimate discussion by a small Committee, and seeing that the matter was at present under discussion between contractors and architects, and that a Special Committee had been appointed to discuss it, he thought they might usefully leave it in their hands for the present.—The proceedings then terminated.

THE R.I.B.A. CONFERENCE AT LIVERPOOL.

By W. R. DAVIDGE [A].

“ ONE of the greatest successes the Institute has ever had ! ” “ A capital and most successful meeting ! ” Such were the expressions one heard on every hand in connection with the Liverpool meeting. Our hosts—the Liverpool Architectural Society, headed by Mr. T. T. Rees and Mr. Gilbert Fraser, and the Hon. Secretaries, Mr. Richard Holt and Mr. Ernest Gee—had spared no effort to make the meeting go off well, and from the very moment of our arrival we were made to feel thoroughly at home.

The Lord Mayor of Liverpool formally opened the Conference on Friday, 24th June, by an official reception at the old Town Hall. The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, in a graceful speech of thanks to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, voiced the feelings of the members when he said that it came as a delightful surprise to see the fine old Town Hall, with its magnificent reception-rooms, originally designed by Wood, of Bath. The late King Edward, in visiting Liverpool, expressed the opinion that these rooms were the most magnificent suite he had seen in the whole of Europe.

The meetings of the Conference were held in the Walker Art Gallery, and opened with an important paper* by our President, outlining the steps that have been taken towards securing the unification of the profession. He was also able to announce that the negotiations with the Society of Architects had met with a most favourable response, and that a provisional agreement had been reached on the general principle of the absorption of the Society within the Institute. The President's address was followed by a racy paper by Professor Reilly on “ Publicity and Propaganda,” † which called forth a most breezy and spontaneous discussion, of which probably the outstanding features were some very charming banter between the representatives of the Liverpool University School of Architecture and the Architectural Association, whose champion was Mr. W. G. Newton, and a delightful speech by Mr. J. Hubert Worthington.

Lunch at the Liverpool University Club was a very pleasant function ; but in a day so full of event little time was left for the after-lunch cigarette. One had to rush off to catch the boat across to Birkenhead, where the motors were ready to convey the party to Port Sunlight and elsewhere.

The Mersey is Liverpool's most lusty lung, and a trip across the busy river is always a tonic. The architectural visitor will, of course, criticise the relative merits of the three giant buildings that line the landing-stage. The “ Liver ” Building, with its gigantic “ liver ” bird on its lofty perch, looks down upon the quiet and restrained dignity of the newer Cunard Building, and quite overtops the dome of the Mersey Docks and

Harbour Offices ; but each has its own symbolism in this great city, and each in its measure typifies the driving force, the dignity, and the wealth of the City of Liverpool.

Across the river the great shipbuilding yards are at present idle ; but Birkenhead looks much as ever, and its contrast with Port Sunlight serves to throw the latter into brilliant relief.

A visit was first paid to a large wartime factory near Bromborough, where all the processes that go to make up margarine were explained ; and the party then proceeded to Port Sunlight, where the new Art Gallery, now nearly completed, and other recent buildings were inspected, and, no doubt, to some extent criticised. Interest in this pioneer settlement is always great, and at each visit one is more and more struck by the courage and indomitable will of our Honorary Fellow, Lord Leverhulme, who so long as thirty years ago made such a village possible, and at the same time provided such an invaluable object lesson to the world at large. The firm of Lever Brothers acted up to their reputation and provided the hundred or so members of the Conference with a most hospitable reception and a most substantial tea, at which the thanks of the visitors were voiced by Mr. Wm. Woodward, and responded to by Mr. J. L. Simpson, the Architect to Messrs. Lever Brothers. A photograph of the party was taken before leaving the Garden Village, and gave rise to considerable merriment, which helped the holiday feeling that was in the air.

The R.I.B.A. banquet at the Midland Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool, in the evening, was the crowning function of the visit, and the speeches reached a very high level indeed. The President, Mr. John W. Simpson, although somewhat fatigued by an exhausting day's work, was in the best of form, and his genial chairmanship produced equally genial spirits in all present. Among such a host of good speakers, it is difficult to particularise, but the honours of the evening rested with our hosts and the representatives of the City of Liverpool, all phases of civic life being represented from the Water Engineer to the Stipendiary Magistrate and the Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University. Mr. H. T. Buckland, Vice-President, in speaking to one of the toasts, expressed the hope that the City would entrust architects with even a larger share of public work on behalf of their fellow-citizens, and frequent allusion was made in the speeches to the many magnificent public buildings which Liverpool owns, from St. George's Hall, designed by Elmes—the “ finest building in Europe ”—to the palatial Adelphi Hotel, of which Mr. R. Frank Atkinson is architect, and many describe as “ the finest hotel in Europe.”

Saturday morning, 25th June, was given up to discussions in the Walker Art Gallery on papers by Mr. Searles-Wood on “ Building Contracts ”* ; Mr. L. B. Budden on “ Architectural Education,” † and Mr.

* “ The Unification and Registration of the Architectural Profession,”
ante, p. 497.

† To be published in the next issue.

* Extracts from this Paper are given on pages 503-4.
† To be published in the next issue.

Maurice Webb on "Official Architecture,"* each of which produced a capital discussion.

Mr. Maurice Webb's paper was a fair and impartial statement of the case for and against official architecture and was one with which all sides must have agreed. In the debate which followed, the trend of the discussion was undoubtedly in favour of opening the larger works as far as possible to the private practitioner, not especially for his benefit, but to secure the best results in each case.

The afternoon was devoted to a visit to Liverpool Cathedral, under the skilful guidance of its architect, Mr. Gilbert Scott. The situation of the new cathedral, on the top of St. James's Mount, is undoubtedly the finest in Liverpool, but one cannot help feeling that the site is unduly cramped and will eventually need to be surrounded with further open space and greenery. The view of the completed Lady Chapel and Chancel, as seen from the public gardens at the South end of the Cathedral, shows how fine the massive red-hued outline of the building would be, if everywhere it were seen from similar surroundings. Rather less than one half of the main building is in hand, but enough has been completed to show that in scale and boldness of conception Liverpool Cathedral when completed will be unsurpassed.

From the Cathedral, the party made its way to the new Cunard Building, so well described by its architect, Mr. W. E. Willink [F.] in his paper before the R.I.B.A. in February last. The planning and fitting up of this magnificent office building much impressed the visitors, and, thanks to the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Willink, tea was provided at the conclusion of the visit in a cool and attractive room on the top floor. The Cunard Company are to be congratulated on the beautiful building which they now occupy, and Mr. Willink, and his partner, Mr. H. A. Dod [A.], on the successful completion of a great work carried out in spite of the immense difficulties which arose during the war.

The weather during the visit was phenomenally warm, and in the cool of the evening it was very pleasant to find ourselves as the guests of the White Star Company on board a tender steaming down to the mouth of the Mersey. The view of the docks and buildings on both sides of the river, seen from such a pleasant vantage, with further light refreshments in due course, formed a fitting close to the day's exertions, and after rounding the Crosby Lightship the party turned homeward with mingled feelings of pleasure and regret that the Conference was so near its end.

Many of the party had to leave for home, but a few who stayed will have pleasant recollections of the hospitality of the Lord Mayor and other friends who did so much to make the Institute visit to Liverpool the success it was.

Thanks to them all!

W. R. DAVIDGE.

* See pages 501-3.

OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE.

The Programme of the Conference, details of which have already appeared in the JOURNAL, was carried out in its entirety. Members were present from all parts of the country, the greater number arriving in Liverpool on the 23rd June. The following is a complete list :

Professor Patrick Abercrombie [A.] and Mrs. Abercrombie; Mr. Jos. Addison [A.]; Mr. S. D. Adshead, Vice-President R.I.B.A.; Mr. R. Frank Atkinson [F.]; Mr. F. E. G. Badger [*Licentiate*]; Mr. W. S. Beaumont [A.] and Mrs. Beaumont; Mr. H. L. Beckwith [*Licentiate*]; Mr. T. P. Bennett [A.]; Mr. J. W. Benwell [F.]; Mr. O. D. Black [F.]; Mr. Chas. A. Bladon [A.]; Mr. Q. M. Bluhm [F.]; Mr. Geo. E. Belslshaw and Mrs. Belslshaw; Mr. Egerton L. Bower [A.]; Mr. James S. Bramwell [A.]; Mr. C. H. E. Bridgen [A.]; Mr. W. G. Buck [*Licentiate*]; Mr. Herbert T. Buckland [F.] President Birmingham Architectural Association; Mr. Lionel B. Budden [A.]; Mr. J. H. Burton [*Licentiate*]; Mr. Ralph H. Byrne, M.R.I.A.I., and Mrs. Byrne; Mr. Kenneth Cameron [A.] and Mrs. Cameron; Mr. Campbell (Liverpool Society); Mr. Wm. T. Clarke [A.]; Mr. E. R. F. Cole [A.]; Mr. Henry R. Collins [A.]; Major H. C. Corlette [F.]; Mr. A. H. Crawford; Mr. P. W. H. Cundall [A.]; Mr. H. A. Dalrymple [A.]; Mr. W. R. Davidge [A.]; Professor A. C. Dickie [A.]; Mr. W. Glen Dobie [A.]; Mr. Edwin J. Dod [A.]; Mr. Harold Dod [A.]; Mr. W. B. Fletcher; Mr. C. B. Flockton [F.]; President, Sheffield, etc., Society of Architects; Mr. Harold J. Foggi; Mr. Gilbert Fraser [F.]; President, Liverpool Architectural Society; Mr. Ernest Gee [A.]; Mr. H. B. S. Gibbs [A.]; Major J. Walter Gibbs; Mr. Hastwell Grayson [F.] and Mrs. Grayson; Mr. W. Curtis Green [F.]; Mr. E. Griffiths; Mr. Harold Griffiths [*Probationer*]; Mr. H. V. Guttmann, Manchester; Mr. E. Stanley Hall [F.]; Mr. H. Austen Hall [F.] and Mrs. Austen Hall; Mr. Stanley Hamp [A.]; Mr. J. Hargreaves; Mr. Charles W. Harris [F.]; Mr. W. Alexander Harvey [F.]; Mr. Wm. Haywood [F.] and Mrs. Haywood; Mr. Francis H. Healey [A.]; Mr. A. E. Heazell [F.]; Mr. E. H. Heazell [*Licentiate*]; Mr. Gordon Hemm; Mr. A. W. Hennings [F.]; President, Manchester Society of Architects, and Mrs. Hennings; Mr. S. G. Hewitt [F.]; Mr. E. Percy Hinde [F.] and Mrs. Hinde; Mr. F. Holt; Mr. Richard Holt, Hon. Secretary, Liverpool Architectural Society, and Mrs. Holt; Mr. Francis Hooper [F.]; Mr. A. J. Hope [F.]; Mr. G. A. Humphreys [F.]; Mr. J. P. Hunter [*Licentiate*]; Mr. Francis Jones [F.] and Mrs. Jones; Mr. Ivor Jones [A.], Hon. Secretary, South Wales Institute of Architects; Mr. Arthur Keen, Hon. Secretary R.I.B.A.; Mr. A. Ralph Keighley [A.]; Mr. Kingham (Liverpool Society); Mr. L. Kitchen [F.]; President York and East Yorkshire Architectural Society, and Mrs. Kitchen; Mr. William H. Law; Mr. Philip H. Lawson [A.]; Mr. T. Alwyn Lloyd [F.]; Mr. Ian MacAlister (Secretary R.I.B.A.); Mr. J. H. McGovern [*Licentiate*]; Mr. S. A. H. Mackey [A.]; Mr. F. Morrall Maddox [A.]; Mr. Thomas R. Milburn [F.]; President, Northern A.A., and Mrs. Milburn; Mr. Eric Morley [F.]; Lt.-Col. S. Pelham Morter [*Licentiate*]; Mr. W. G. Newton [A.]; President A.A.; Mr. F. W. Nicholson [A.]; Mr. Lucius O'Callaghan, President R.I.A.I.; Mr. G. D. Oliver [F.]; Mr. W. T. Plume *Hou* [A.]; Mr. H. L. Paterson [A.] and son; Mr. Reginald Poole; Mr. H. C. Portsmouth, President South Wales Institute of Architects; Mr. Edgar Quiggin [F.]; Mr. T. T. Rees [F.] and Mrs. Rees; Professor C. H. Reilly [F.]; Mr. Frank Rimmington [*Licentiate*]; Mr. N. S. Robinson [A.]; Mr. H. J. Rowse [A.]; Mr. Albert Schofield; Mr. G. Gilbert Scott [F.], A.R.A.; Mr. T. F. Sheppard [F.]; Mr. George Simpson [*Licentiate*]; Mr. John W. Simpson (President R.I.B.A.); Mr. J. Llewellyn Smith [*Licentiate*]; Mr. Norman R. Stanley; Mr. M. Calvert Sunter [A.]; Mr. John Swarbrick [F.]; Mr. Sam Taylor; Mr. Percy Thomas [A.]; Mr. H. Unwin [A.]; Mr. Reginald Wainwright [*Licentiate*]; Mr. B. M. Ward [A.]; Mr. Maurice E. Webb [F.]; Mr. W. E. Willink [F.]; Mr. Percy Wilson [A.]; Mr. William Woodeson [*Licentiate*]; Mr. Wm. Woodward [F.]; Mr. Hubert Worthington [A.]; Dr. Percy S. Worthington [F.] and Mrs. Worthington; and representatives of the Press.

Mr. T. T. Rees [F.], Past President of the Liverpool Society, and Messrs. Richard Holt and Ernest Gee [A.], Joint Hon. Secretaries of the Society, were in attendance at the Midland Adelphi Hotel on Thursday evening, to give information to newly arrived members, and an unofficial dinner was held at the hotel. A tastefully produced programme, supplemented by a beautifully illustrated guide to places of interest in Liverpool, was the Society's special contribution to the Conference.

The formal opening by the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress (Alderman and Mrs. E. Russell Taylor) took place on Friday morning at 10.30 at the Town Hall.

The LORD MAYOR, in delivering his address of welcome, said that among the many pleasurable duties of his office, few had afforded him more pleasure than in welcoming the members of that Conference, whom he might call brother craftsmen, for he himself had served articles in an architect's office, though he had not adhered to the profession. He hoped the Institute's visit to Liverpool would yield good results. Liverpool had not many reliques, but it had many compensations from an architectural standpoint, one of which was the Town Hall; the late King Edward had said that although he had been in every town hall of note in Europe he had never seen a more magnificent suite of

rooms than these. Then there was that extremely fine building, St. George's Hall, and also, now slowly rearing its stately head, a building which was a pleasure to the citizens of Liverpool—the cathedral, which they in Liverpool and many people outside considered a magnificent piece of work. He hoped their deliberations would result in benefit to the profession, and that when they left the city they would carry away pleasant recollections of it.

The PRESIDENT, Mr. JOHN W. SIMPSON, in reply, thanked the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress for the kindness with which the members of the Conference had been welcomed on behalf of the Corporation. Such courtesies extended by the great municipalities of the country to the institutions concerned with the arts and sciences were the occasion of some of the most important functions in the social life of the day. It was not without a sense of honour and of pleasure that they found themselves received in that wonderful suite of rooms. They congratulated the Lord Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool on their possession of it. They would like to take it back with them to London as a small souvenir of their visit. (Laughter.)

The rest of the morning's proceedings and the afternoon visits to Brompton and Port Sunlight are described in Mr. Davidge's notes at the head of this report.

THE CONFERENCE BANQUET.

The Conference Banquet took place on Friday evening at the Adelphi Hotel, and was presided over by the President, Mr. John W. Simpson. Among the special guests were the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Liverpool, the Mayor and Mayoress of Wallasey, the Mayor and Mayoress of Birkenhead, the Town Clerk of Liverpool, the Vice-Chancellor of Liverpool University, the President of the Liverpool Engineering Society (Mr. I. R. Davidson), the City Engineer (Mr. John A. Brodie), the Chairman of the Walker Art Gallery (Alderman John Lea).

The PRESIDENT, in proposing the loyal toasts, said some reference should be made to the King's magnificent action in visiting Ireland, and he proposed to send a telegram to His Majesty expressing their loyal admiration.*

The LORD MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL, who proposed "The Royal Institute of British Architects and the Liverpool Architectural Society," said he felt that the Conference being held in Liverpool was not only a compliment to the city, but reflected glory on it. He was delighted that an Institute of such magnitude, whose ramifications extended practically over every quarter of the globe, should have come to their city. They had a whole-hearted appreciation of the work the Institute had done since its foundation, and hoped that work would continue, because he understood the object they had in view was not only the strengthening of the Institute, but to bring into its fold other bodies akin to it but not quite associated with it. The time of amalgamation, he said, was with them, and, provided it was used right, amalgamation was a sign of strength. He recognised in the Institute an organisation of vast importance, because it was instilling art into the minds of many who were not artistic. It had endeavoured for many years past to improve the appearance of cities—and many cities needed improvement, not for lack of knowledge, but possibly for lack of funds. The Institute was quietly demonstrating to the thinking public that a thing of beauty, even in a grimy city, might be a thing of joy, and if that was continued it would, in a quiet way, have done great good to the country. The Institute had had associated with it many renowned men, but he ventured to say that one of the greatest compliments that had been paid to it was the election of one of its past Presidents to the honoured position of President of the Royal Academy. One of the Institute's most cherished privileges must be the annual election of an architect to receive His Majesty's Gold Medal in recognition of the high merit of his work. Another notable feature of the Institute's work was its educational side. The poorest boy leaving an

elementary school, if he were inclined to art, could mount the ladder by winning scholarships and receiving assistance from the Institute and win the honourable position which the President now holds. With regard to the other part of the toast, "the Liverpool Architectural Society"—that body had a great record. It was one of the oldest architectural societies, having been founded as far back as 1848, and it was very interesting to him as a Liverpool citizen to find that, during that long period, they had worked up to a position which he believed was not only the envy of England, but also the envy of the world so far as the School of Architecture and Applied Art was concerned. (Applause.) Forty years after the foundation of the Liverpool Architectural Society, an Art Conference was held at Liverpool, and a suggestion was made by a then Associate of the Royal Academy that he would like to see such a school. Mr. (now Sir) T. G. Jackson read a Paper in which he put forward his idea, and many in the architectural profession thought he was a little mad or a little wild. In 1892, however, only four years afterwards, an Art Conference was again held in Liverpool, and the question of an architectural school was again discussed. The discussion bore fruit, and two or three years afterwards Sir T. G. Jackson came to Liverpool to open that school. That very day (continued the Lord Mayor) purely by accident he had come across a pamphlet which incorporated the paper Sir T. G. Jackson had read at the opening of the school. The final clause read: "Such was my dream of an ideal School of Architecture and Applied Art—three years ago a Utopian dream, as it then seemed—and such is the ideal school which I hope and venture to believe it is your intention to create here at Liverpool. It is a scheme to which every true son of Art will from his heart wish a successful issue, and one which if it succeeds cannot fail to have an unparalleled influence on the history of art in England." (Hear, hear.) Liverpool was very proud of that school, and although he had no wish to flatter anyone he could not pass over the mention of the school without alluding to a gentleman whom Liverpool was proud to own, Professor Reilly. (Applause.) The school was one of the first in England, and was world-famous. Its record was one to be proud of, and reflected the highest credit upon those connected with Liverpool and with the University. During recent years two of their students—one of whom, H. C. Bradshaw, he knew very well—had won the blue riband of architecture. Incidentally he might observe that he had admired very much the front page design of their menu card that evening, and he congratulated the designer, whoever he was, and hoped he might be a student of the Liverpool School.* Liverpool had been often spoken of as non-artistic, but in those days when Sir Thomas suggested the school, Liverpool came to its assistance by granting £1,000 per annum, and this had since been increased. Might he suggest that, as they had many officials there who had influence in the great city of Liverpool, after this Conference the school might be able to obtain a little more help.

THE PRESIDENT: If I were replying to a personal compliment it would doubtless be proper of me to make a modest disclaimer of the charming things the Lord Mayor has been good enough to say. But I am in the happy position of being able to accept those laudatory commendations without so much as a tremor or a blush. I can accept them, sir, and I can tell you that they are fully merited. (Laughter.) The Royal Institute is indeed a very great and a very important organisation, and its ramifications extend throughout the Empire. The more important the Royal Institute becomes—and we have every hope of making it in the near future a far greater organisation than it even is at present—the greater is its opportunity of rendering help to those devoted men who constitute the corporations and municipalities of our great cities. It is one of the chief functions of the Institute to give

* The President's message, with His Majesty's reply, is printed on another page of this issue.

* Mr. Donald Bradshaw, the author of the design, is a student of the Liverpool School of Architecture.—ED.

advice on schemes for the improvement of their cities, and its organisation is always at the disposal of municipalities, corporations and Government departments. It is fitting that the Royal Institute should hold this, the first of its Conferences after many years, at Liverpool, this great city of architecture, a city whose municipality bequeathed to its successors the finest edifice in Europe. It is a legacy of which, I doubt not, the municipality will take every care to see that its surroundings are fittingly bestowed. The Liverpool Society, to which the Lord Mayor has made such appreciative reference, is one of the oldest of the thirty or more children of which the Royal Institute is so proud. It is a very flourishing, a very energetic and a very successful organisation. Connected with it is the School of Architecture, of which we as well as Liverpool are proud (hear, hear), for the wings of the Royal Institute spread over all the schools; protecting them, encouraging them, and watching their progress and development with pride as a parent watches the progress of his offspring. We do not pretend that the Liverpool School is entirely the child of the Institute, but at any rate it is adopted by it. Liverpool is a city which has every right to be proud of its position among our cities. It possesses a magnificent edifice, St. George's Hall. It possesses in part, and will presently possess in its completion, that wonderful cathedral which we owe to the delicate fancy of our friend Mr. Gilbert Scott. (Applause.) It has also shown the way in the commercial buildings, the Cunard, the Royal Liver, and the other fine buildings that form that admirable group at the pier-head. And I do not know why I should not mention this delightful hotel in which we now are. (Hear, hear.) I am not sure that the architect of this building, with its delightful, deeply studied detail, is not, unconsciously perhaps, doing a great work towards the education of the public who come here and, perhaps without knowing exactly why, receive a pleasing and comforting impression of things being just as they ought to be. (Hear, hear.) I am not speaking of creature comforts, but of the architecture. Architecture is a matter of everyday life. It is of great importance to our social life. There is nothing worse than architecture which leaves a depressing impression on people's imagination. As Mr. Clatton

Brock said in one of the lectures at the Royal Institute lately, there are some streets which have a distinctly depressing effect on those who pass down them. That is because they are badly designed and badly laid out, and their



Donald Bradshaw, 1921

width not being equal to the height of the buildings, they are dull. These streets have a dispiriting effect upon those who pass along them, and for that reason architecture is a thing not merely of art but of utility, a matter which leaves an impression upon our physical as well as upon our spiritual

life. It is really a matter of hygiene. Some people imagine that architecture is something that they cannot understand, that it is a mystery, something which is produced only by people who have been trained to understand it. But if the public would put that impression aside and remember that they are as well able to understand architecture as to understand the message which is given them by any other artist it would be a great help to the public themselves. Nobody says "I do not understand literature and therefore I do not read a novel." They take the message given them by the author, although they do not understand the exact process by which he combined the words and phrases which give the impression he designed to give. They accept the message for what it is. And, if they are wise, the public will accept the message of the architect for what it is, without troubling to analyse it too closely. That it is the thing that gives them a pleasant impression is enough. As their knowledge increases they will, no doubt, as in the case of a musical composition, gain added pleasure; all that is wanted is observation. The ordinary British subject seems to go about without seeing things, exemplifying the wonderful old Scriptural saying, "Having eyes that see not, neither do they understand." The reason they do not understand is because they do not use their eyes. If people would only regard a new building from which the scaffolding has been removed with the same interest with which they view a new picture or listen to a new musical work they would find in it the same pleasure. But I am afraid we architects have been largely to blame, not in the present, of course, but in the past. We have been to blame because we have given, perhaps unwittingly, the impression that architecture is a dead language, a language spoken only by highly cultured priests who understand it. That is not so. Architecture is a living thing, it can be read by all who will take the trouble to open their eyes and see and understand it. (Applause.) We are especially grateful to the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress for their presence here to-night. The extraordinary kindness of the Lord Mayor in his welcome to the Institute is one of those indications which are so warmly appreciated because it reveals the sympathy of the great corporations with the aims for which we are working. We thank you, sir, very sincerely for the courtesy and hospitality you have shown to us. (Applause.)

Major GILBERT FRASER [F.] (President of the Liverpool Architectural Society), responding on behalf of his Society, said they felt honoured that the Royal Institute should have selected Liverpool in which to hold the first of its revived Conferences in the provinces. They in Liverpool felt very much cut off from the headquarters of the Royal Institute. It was this reunion of themselves and their friends, and the opportunity for such an interchange of views as had taken place that morning, that would make the Conferences in the provinces a success. They were proud of their city, proud of their enthusiasm for their art, and proud of their Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. The Lord Mayor was in a profession closely allied to their own, and his sympathy and support could be counted on in any scheme in the furtherance of which they were interested. This Conference had necessitated a great deal of work, and their grateful acknowledgments were due to their President, Mr. T. T. Rees, and to Mr. Holt and other officers.

Mr. H. T. BUCKLAND [F.] (President of the Birmingham Architectural Association) proposed the toast of "Our Guests." They had with them as guests, he said, a really distinguished assembly, all of them fulfilling eminent positions in their respective capacities. They had been invited very largely because their interests were the interests of architects, in that they realised that beauty was a thing that mattered. He wished to enlist their sympathy and their co-operation in a project which was attracting some attention throughout the country, and was recognised throughout America as something extremely desirable in public affairs. An architect might be eminently capable of designing wonderful buildings, but the great difficulty was getting him employed to design and carry out those build-

ings. It came within the province of a municipal body to give a lot of work to architects. They were constantly engaged in carrying out public work, but very often that public work was not placed possibly in the best way that it might be. He did not think that the judges of what was good were necessarily a city council. Eminently qualified as they were to give an opinion upon matters of finance and practical utility, they often failed when it came to exercising a question of taste. Good taste was a quality that one was not exactly born with. Their great danger was the man who said: "I know the thing I like, therefore that is the thing I am going to vote for." America had recognised that, with the result that it had formed a number of what are known as Art Commissions. When any great civic improvement was in hand it was not left to the decision of the city council but was referred to an advisory commission to give an opinion upon it, and then it went back to the city council for a final decision. This was a wise course, because upon such an advisory commission would be elected people of taste and people of particular qualifications which enabled them to judge whether a scheme possessed the qualities which made it good. In Birmingham they were very keen on this, and were endeavouring to get such a commission formed, but it could only be done with the co-operation of the great spending body—the City Corporation. If they could enlist their sympathy then they would be able to form such a commission. He would put to them a concrete case. If Liverpool had had an advisory commission at the time when the lay-out of St. John's Square, otherwise the Stoneyard, was under consideration the result would not have been what they had at present. (Hear, hear.) He would ask the Lord Mayor if he regarded the Stoneyard as a satisfactory development. (Laughter.) Whenever any building of public interest came before the city council all qualified architects would wish that their designs should be submitted to such a committee as he had suggested, so that expressions of opinion might be advanced with regard to the design and its suitability for the particular position. (Hear, hear.) That particularly applied to schemes put forward by the Corporation. Officials whose function it was to do certain things in connection with public works frequently advised on all sorts of things, as well as the lay-out of streets, and the tendency was to leave such officials to decide whether a particular building or development was a good one. All they asked was that a commission should be formed to which all these schemes should be referred, so that they might come before people specially trained to give an opinion on them. (Applause.) He hoped he would be forgiven for taking advantage of the present opportunity for advancing something which, while it might be for the good of architects, was not put forward for that reason. It was the general good and the beauty of their cities that they were seeking to promote, and this was one of the ways in which these desirable ends might be achieved.

Dr. ADAM, F.R.S. (Vice-Chancellor of the University of Liverpool), responding on behalf of the guests, said he was very glad that Mr. Buckland had brought up this matter of Art Commissions. They were very proud of their city, but they had a number of awful examples in the way of buildings, and were rather ashamed of them. During the last few months a good deal had been done to stimulate public opinion upon their street architecture. Nothing better had been done than the series of articles on the street architecture of Liverpool by Professor Reilly. (Applause.) They had been of great value in interesting the citizens in the matter of good architecture, and the time was ripe for them to go farther in Liverpool along the lines suggested by Mr. Buckland. Their river front had been spoken very kindly of, but most of them agreed with Professor Reilly that one of the three buildings there was utterly out of proportion to the others; the three do not hang together as they ought to do on such a magnificent site. Mistakes like that ought not to be repeated. He

hoped that Mr. Buckland's words had fallen on fertile ground, and that they would see in Liverpool, in the future, public buildings, and also buildings put up by great corporations, carefully studied before they were allowed to be erected and alter the proportions of the streets and the general effect of the buildings upon our great thoroughfares. As Vice-Chancellor of the University, he should like to say a word of appreciation for the help of the Institute and the cordial co-operation it had given to the University and the University School of Architecture. The University was working on the same lines as the Institute; it was keenly interested in the advance of architecture, keenly interested in the advance of all professional subjects, and it was a pleasure to feel that it had the sympathy of the Institute, and to know that it was willing to help them forward and to make this and other provincial and University schools a strong feature in the development of the architectural profession. As one who was not an architect, might he say how throughout his life he had been drawn to the architects he had known, and had appreciated their breadth of view, their keen interest in art, and their fine intellectual qualities. It was a great profession; it had faced rebuff, and although times were bad, still he thought more and more that, thanks to the broad views of the Institute and the Liverpool Architectural Council, architecture would play a big part in English life in the future. (Applause.)

Mr. STUART DEACON (Stipendiary Magistrate) also responded, and entertained the company with an amusing account of his experiences as umpire in an arbitration in which architects were concerned.

PROFESSOR MAIR (President of the University Club) said it had been a great pleasure to them to offer members the hospitality of the Club, because they regarded the architect from universal point of view as a brother worker. They looked upon work in art as at least as fine and important an expression of the human spirit as work in science. He did not think there was any kind of worker who contributed more to the social good or to the happiness of mankind than the architect did; sometimes also to the misery. (Laughter.) The architect was in a position of peculiar privilege. As an artist when he was asked or he persisted in producing a work of art it was planted in the streets, and everyone was bound to see it. Very often when walking through the streets of their city, he would suddenly feel depressed, the feeling being produced at the sight of certain buildings. On other occasions he felt very much uplifted when seeing, either consciously or unconsciously, a pleasing building. There were many things in a city like Liverpool which were in his opinion breaches of the peace. (Laughter.) If a man made a noise that disturbed the equilibrium of the mind they took him before Mr. Stuart Deacon. But they did not prosecute a man who offended them through the eyesight, an offence which was much more painful to them than the offence through the ears. He wished the time would come when the public would take a severer view of the matter and insist on a higher standard of rectitude and beauty than at present existed. These meetings of architects constituted an occasion of great good omen. He hoped it would be brought home to Liverpool the opportunities that were open to them through the existence of a great and powerful body of trained artists who were at their service. He had been in Liverpool for twenty years, and he said it without any desire to flatter, but simply as an expression of his considered judgment, that he thought Liverpool had a great soul. It was one of the great soul cities of the country. It was a city of fine ideals, of progressive men, of intense local patriotism, but he did wish that the time were nearer when that soul of Liverpool were clothed in a body appropriate to it. It was upon architects that that call fell. He hoped they would be amply supported in the future by a growing public interest in the value of their great profession. (Applause.)

MR. T. TALIESIN REES [F.] gave "The President of the Royal Institute." He was the most energetic President

the Institute had ever had and one of the best of architects. Might he live long to lead them in architecture!

The toast was drunk with musical honours, and the PRESIDENT thanked the company for their kindness and for the excellent way in which, he said, they had rendered that dismal ditty. (Laughter and applause.)

Saturday's proceedings, consisting of the reading of Papers by Mr. Searles Wood, Mr. Lionel Budden, and Mr. Maurice Webb, and visits to the Cathedral and the Cunard Building, and a trip on the River Mersey, are dealt with in Mr. Davidge's interesting notes, pages 505-6.

Acknowledgments.

It should be known to members generally that for the success of this Conference our thanks are due entirely to the Liverpool Architectural Society, and in particular to those representatives of the Society who, in the three months preceding the Conference, gave so freely and cheerfully of their time and energy to ensure the smooth working of all the arrangements involved. The programme was a crowded one, and the time was strictly limited, but everything went without a single hitch and with surprising punctuality.

To Mr. Gilbert Fraser, President of the Society; Mr. T. Taliesin Rees, the immediate Past President; to Mr. Richard Holt and Mr. Ernest Gee, the Hon. Secretaries; to the indefatigable band of Stewards—Mr. H. A. Dod [A.], Mr. E. Quiggin [F.], Mr. K. Cameron [A.], Mr. E. R. F. Cole [A.], and Mr. Felix Holt; to Mr. Donald Bradshaw, who was responsible for the beautiful design of the Programme; to Mr. G. Gilbert Scott, A.R.A. [F.], who guided us on our memorable visit to the Cathedral; to Mr. and Mrs. Willink, who entertained us so charmingly at tea on the hottest afternoon of all, we record our grateful acknowledgments.

We have also to thank those hospitable people—not connected with our body—whose kindness and courtesy contributed so largely to the pleasure of the members of the Conference. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Liverpool, who received us with so gracious a welcome; the Chairman of the Library and Arts Committee, who lent us his beautiful rooms for the meetings and the Exhibition; the Cunard Steamship Company, who enabled us to inspect their wonderful building; the White Star Steamship Company and their manager, Mr. A. B. Cauty, who provided for us the river trip that made so delightful a wind-up on the last evening; Messrs. Lever Brothers, who with Mr. Ivie Fulton and Mr. J. L. Simpson arranged the visit to Port Sunlight and entertained us so hospitably in the Village Hall, have all placed us heavily and permanently in their debt.

SECRETARY R.I.B.A.

An interesting souvenir of the Conference is available in the shape of a portrait group of some 120 of its members, photographed at Port Sunlight by Mr. Walter Scott, of Bradford. The picture measures 9 inches by 24 inches, and is a really beautiful specimen of the photographer's art. Copies may be obtained from Mr. Scott at 26-30A North Parade, Bradford.

SIR ROBERT ROWAND ANDERSON: AN APPRECIATION.

By A. N. PATERSON, M.A., A.R.S.A., President
of the Institute of Scottish Architects.

From an Address delivered at the Annual Convention of the Institute
of Scottish Architects held at Dundee, 21st June 1921.

IT has commonly been remarked of Sir Rowand Anderson that his force of character, breadth of view, and determination of spirit, together with his powerful constitution would have made him great in whatever sphere his life work had lain. As a lawyer he would have lent weight and dignity to the Bench; a soldier, that field-marshal's baton would certainly have been in his knapsack, and not remained there; a surgeon or physician, he would have been famous as an operator or consultant; a churchman, he had graced a bishopric or the Moderator's Chair. But while these various offices have no doubt their various uses, I make bold to say that as a great architect his life and work were of more value to Scotland than had they been spent in any one of them, and we have therefore cause for thankfulness that, as a youth, he was permitted to follow his natural bent and early transferred from the lawyer's desk to the drawing board.

I have said that Scotland is the gainer. His influence, of course, extends far beyond our borders, both through his works themselves and through the men who in their younger days gained knowledge and inspiration in his office, and whose works in many lands reflect something of the lessons then learned. Yet it remains the fact, somewhat remarkable in consideration of his eminence, that his buildings are all with us to enjoy and admire. And I am not sure but that, in the main, he would have had it so, for Sir Rowand Anderson was first of all a great Scot. The particulars obtainable of his early training are scanty and uncertain, but if the information in this respect contained in the *Scotsman* article on his life are correct, as I have been assured is the case, we know that as an assistant for a time with Sir Gilbert Scott he already showed his ability, and from that a successful career in the South must have lain open to one of his character. Instead, he preferred to return to his native country, and throughout his long life remained a stout protagonist of things Scottish, of the interest and beauty of its national architecture, and the importance to the student of a thorough knowledge of its early examples in relation to the work, however divergent in requirements, of the present day.

If his early training was, even according to the ideas of his time, irregular, it is given to none to belittle on that account our efforts to improve the common opportunities in this respect to-day. Genius and determination such as his will win through in spite of limitations. How he himself appreciated the value of a thorough education is shown by his labours in its cause. He was, indeed, a pioneer in that direction when, in founding the School of Applied Arts in Edin-

burgh in the year 1892, he devoted to its organisation and direction his time and means to an extent little realised to-day, and that, it must be remembered, when still in the full flood of his career as, by general admission, the premier architect of Scotland. These, his works, do follow him even to this present day. The measured drawings of our earlier national architecture which, in middle life, he incorporated in the scheme of the school, it was a chief concern of his latest years to render of wider usefulness, and it is mainly owing to his personal labour and generosity that, despite much initial difficulty and opposition, their publication as the National Art Survey is now in progress, in a form at once so excellent and at a price so moderate as to be within the reach of all. Nor was his appreciation of the value of a sound education confined to that side of it represented by the study of old examples, as was evidenced by his later offer of open bursaries for promoting the study of modern construction.

As a great Scot therefore we honour him; as a great educationist also, but most of all as a great architect. It is needless for me, in a gathering of Scottish Architects, to enumerate the many buildings erected to his design and restored under his direction in all parts of the country. They are known to and admired by us all. He had great opportunities, not only in the importance of the commissions entrusted to him, but in their variety. For in no sense was he a specialist, either as regards the nature or purpose of the buildings undertaken, or the particular styles of architecture employed for any one of these as being best fitted to express his ideas. For him the various streams which, united, form our great Western tradition were his to draw upon at will. With freedom and facility, though always with sane restraint, he did so, leaving untouched only that pure classic which forms the original source of them all. This, whether it was foreign to his cast of thought or, as is more likely, unsuited to the fit rendering of any of the special schemes he was called upon to develop, it would now be hard to say. Thus, while in his churches he expressed himself in Norman, early or late Gothic (though never in the purely English Perpendicular), his Medical Schools and Conservative Club were early Italian, his Caledonian Railway Buildings and Mount Stuart French Renaissance, his National Portrait Gallery French Gothic, and his houses Scottish Domestic. Yet through all there is a personal note. Wherein that lies was well expressed by Mr. Ernest Newton in his Presidential Address on the occasion of the presentation of the Royal Gold Medal to Sir Rowand, when he described, as the characteristic quality of his work, "its evident integrity, each building being thought out for its special purpose with a simplicity and directness of conception which dominates the whole design, the beauty of any particular motif or the careful study of its detail never being allowed undue prominence, each work being eloquent of the requirements and purposes of the building and of his knowledge of and sympathy with the various

crafts employed." I am not sure but that this essential fitness, the ultimate test of all good architecture, will not be found based on that sound common sense which, with a strong admixture of the Celtic imagination, we make bold to think of as more or less indigenous to our northern soil (though not by any means exclusive to it !) so that in this respect also Sir Rowand Anderson may be said to have proclaimed his Scottish nationality. It seems to me, at least, that, were any of his notable buildings transferred either to the countries of their stylistic origin or to an English environment they would have a somewhat alien appearance, while in their situation among us they in the main, as all good architecture should, proclaim themselves to be at home.

But while the achievements of Sir Rowand are a common heritage of all, it is scarcely necessary to remind ourselves that, as members of the Scottish Institute of Architects, his memory has for our regard a very special claim. In the year 1916 he was already 82 years of age, an age for placid folding of the hands to such as attain so great a span of years. But for him, though bodily infirmity was beginning to tell, that brought no curbing of the spirit. A purely Scottish Society, which would incorporate the scattered and independent bodies already existing in the principal centres and combine their efforts for the general advancement of architecture in our midst, such was in outline a project which had already occupied his thoughts for some time. To others also the idea had been present, but a leader and capital were wanted ; a leader under whom mutual distrust and difficulties would be forgotten, capital essential to the working of a central institute without crippling the resources and energies of the local societies. Sir Rowand furnished both, and within a few weeks, under his vigorous direction, our Institute was formally constituted. It was on 6th October 1916 that negotiations were opened by Mr. Lorne Campbell acting on behalf of Sir Rowand, with Mr. John Watson and Mr. Whitie of Glasgow. On the 10th these two and myself, for the Glasgow Institute of Architects, attended the first meeting in Edinburgh with Mr. Lorne Campbell and Mr. T. F. MacLennan as representing the Edinburgh Association, Sir Rowand Anderson being in the chair. Negotiations followed with Dundee and Aberdeen, and, much spade work having been accomplished in the interval on the drafting of a Constitution, mainly by our great "By-lawer" Mr. Whitie, on the 30th November, the resolution was adopted which formally constituted our Institute, the representatives present other than the above being : for Dundee, Mr. G. P. K. Young and Mr. John T. McLaren, and for Aberdeen Mr. Harbourne MacLennan and Mr. (now Dr.) Wm. Kelly, with Mr. Glassford Walker as interim secretary. An additional Chapter, as you are aware, has since been created with Inverness as centre.

I may be allowed to interpolate here an incident of this first gathering. I thought it necessary to state that, while entirely in favour of the formation of such

a Society and ready to co-operate to the best of my powers in its furtherance, it was on the understanding, in my position as an old and loyal member of the Royal Institute, that no steps should be taken which, in appearance or reality, would impair its natural predominance as the central authority for the United Kingdom. That proposition was then agreed to, and, while our Institute is not as yet formally allied to the R.I.B.A. except through its Chapters, which, till our Charter is obtained, still retain their former connection with the central Body, we have until now, and propose in the future to act in alliance with it and on matters of general policy to accept its guidance. The sole difference in that respect, as I understand it, is that while in former times the R.I.B.A. Council heard the separate voices of Glasgow or Edinburgh, or on rare occasions of both, with the remote possibility of Dundee or Aberdeen joining in in future years, it will now be favoured with the voice of Scotland.

On the formation of our Institute Sir Rowand Anderson was naturally elected as our first President ; during that session he regularly occupied the Chair, and, as many of you will remember, presided at the opening of the first Convention held in Edinburgh in the summer of 1917. Since then, until his death, he continued on the Council until the last few months, taking an active part in its work and that of the Committees, particularly those dealing with the Charter, Education and the National Art Survey. He has, as I am privileged to announce here for the first time, shown how large a part the Institute occupied in his last thoughts by the provisions regarding it in his will. By it, he has left to the Institute his house, 15, Rutland Square, to be used, as he himself has expressed it in a memorandum attached to the will, as its permanent home. That it may the better serve that purpose from a social aspect he has added much fine furniture from his house at Colinton, with silver plate and cutlery included. Educationally we are greatly enriched by the further bequest of his extensive library, while as personal mementoes we shall have his bust, and all medals, diplomas and illuminated addresses. In addition to these, the Institute is vested in a half share of the residue of his estate, on the income from which the first charge is to be a sum of money for bursaries and prizes to be known as the Sir Rowand Anderson Prizes. Certain conditions are attached to the bequest of which it would be premature to intimate the particulars until the Council has had an opportunity of considering their bearing. Meanwhile we can but express our profound appreciation of these benefactions on the part of our Founder towards the further building up of this, the last work of his long and fruitful life. Of Sir Rowand Anderson's many achievements it is not, I think, the least.

In the course of recent wanderings in France I was struck with the frequent cases of monuments to noted architects set up in public places by the towns of their birth or principal labours. Such recognition, though not less merited, is far to seek in this country, yet we

may live to see Forres and Edinburgh competing for the privilege of giving due honour to him whom we remember to-day. For the present it is a source of gratification that the Institute has been able during the last year to secure a worthy presentment of him in the noble bust executed by Dr. Macgillivray, and to know that, though the formal presentation of it was prevented by Sir Rowand's death before the bronze could be completed, he was pleased with it and with the recognition it implied. But for us, gentlemen, it seems to me, the Institute is itself his Memorial; it remains for us and our successors to make and keep it worthy of him and of service to our Art and Country.

STATE-AIDED HOUSING SCHEMES.

Architects' Fees : Discussion at the Special General Meeting, 4th July.

A SPECIAL General Meeting, summoned by the Council under By-law 65 to obtain the sanction of the General Body to an alteration in Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges so as to incorporate the Ministry of Health's General Housing Memoranda, Nos. 31, 51/D and 52, was held on Monday, 4th July.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. ARTHUR KEEN, having announced that the President was unable to attend, Mr. H. V. LANCHESTER, Past Vice-President, was elected Chairman. In taking the Chair, Mr. LANCHESTER said he accepted the position rather reluctantly, as he had been for many months absent from England and was out of touch with the work.

The CHAIRMAN, in accordance with the notice-paper, formally moved the following resolutions :—

- (1) That Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges be altered to read as follows : "In the case of housing schemes and laying out estates special arrangements may be required in exceptional circumstances, but for ordinary purposes the scales of fees are the same as those set out in the Ministry of Health's General Housing Memoranda No. 31, No. 51/D and No. 52.*
- (2) That the Ministry of Health's General Housing Memoranda No. 31, No. 51/D and No. 52,* setting out the fees payable to architects in connection with State-aided housing schemes, as agreed with the Ministry of Health by the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects, be incorporated as an Appendix to the Scale of Professional Charges published in the R.I.B.A. KALENDAR.

Mr. JAMES S. GIRSON [F.] seconded.

The SECRETARY read letters from members protesting against the ratification of the terms set out in the recently issued Memoranda. The following are extracts :—

Messrs. HAYWARD and MAYNARD [A.], London : "As architects interested in a housing scheme, we do not consider it fair that the Ministry should allow no out-of-pocket expenses unless the journey involved is over 25 miles."

Mr. L. ROME GUTHRIE [A.], London : "It is very doubtful if the previous scale paid architects. I am sure it does not pay as regards roads and sewers or lay-out."

Mr. N. T. SALMON [A.], Wokingham : "The scale for abandoned work and the non-payment of out-of-pocket expenses are so manifestly unfair."

Mr. C. HARROLD NORTON [F.], London : "The new scale is obviously unfair, and the non-payment of out-of-pocket expenses is in direct contravention to Memorandum No. 31, which states that the conditions of engagement of architects shall be those customary in the profession."

* The Memoranda are set out in the JOURNAL for 31st July 1920, pp. 426-28, and 25th June 1921, pp. 487-88.

Mr. CONRAD B. WILLCOCKS [F.], Reading :

"As architect for one complete housing scheme and for one-third each of two other schemes, of all three of which schemes it is now proposed to abandon a part, I must very strongly protest against the second resolution, as the proposed scale of fees is most unfair to the profession.

"Two points which are especially inequitable are :—
(1) General Housing Memorandum No. 51/D states that previous scales of fees were inclusive scales covering all out-of-pocket expenses, except travelling expenses for journeys over 25 miles from the architect's office.

"General Housing Memorandum No. 31 states that the conditions of engagement of architects shall be those customary in the profession.

"Under the R.I.B.A. schedule of fees, travelling and other out-of-pocket expenses were always charged, and as most housing architects were engaged when General Housing Memoranda 4 and 31 were in force, they should certainly be paid the customary out-of-pocket expenses in addition to the schedule fees, otherwise it is obvious that architects engaged on urban schemes in towns near their office receive much higher remuneration than architects engaged on rural schemes which necessitate considerable travelling.

"(2) With regard to abandoned schemes. It is apparently proposed that the fees paid should be based on one cottage of each type proposed in the abandoned scheme or part of a scheme. Minor modifications in design to avoid monotony in appearance, etc., not to count as a separate design.

"Such fees it is obvious are quite inadequate, and where a design has been modified several times, necessitating several special drawings, the fee often would not cover the expenses incurred.

"Under the R.I.B.A. schedule, the customary fee for abandoned work, when tenders had been obtained, was three-fifths of the full fees, and surely, for housing schemes where the fees have already been greatly cut, this proportion should not be reduced.

"Resolution No. 1 states that in exceptional circumstances special arrangements with regard to fees may be required, but such a resolution may be of little use, as the court of appeal is not mentioned.

"As a specific example of how unremunerative the scale would be in some cases, I give the following particulars of the number of types of cottages proposed for one scheme where the local authorities required as much variety of design as possible throughout their district. In this example it would appear that the ordinary scale of 5 per cent. on each original design and 2½ per cent. on each repeat should apply.

"(a) Number of cottages in original scheme—140.
(b) Number of cottages for which tenders were signed—44.

"(c) Number of cottages for which designs were prepared and in the majority of cases tenders obtained before the cottages were abandoned—92.

"Number of different designs included in (b)—10.

"Number of minor modifications of the above designs included in (b) necessitating special drawings but not counted as separate designs—14.

"Number of different designs included in (c) additional to those included in (b)—10.

"Number of minor modifications of these designs necessitating special drawings, but not counted as separate designs—8."

Mr. BASIL SUTTON [A.], Lambourn, Berks :

"The conditions of my employment as one of three architects to a rural district council in a general housing scheme were as stated in General Housing Memorandum No. 31 :—

"1. 'The conditions of engagement of architects shall be those which are customary in the professions. . . .'

"It appears, therefore, that the Ministry's Memos

51 D and 52 as applicable to abandoned schemes and out-of-pocket expenses are in direct contravention of Memo. 31, and, if ratified by the Institute, will occasion considerable hardship to many members of the profession and especially to those, like myself, who have been put to great expense in travelling by road to rural schemes at distances up to 25 miles from their offices."

MR. C. WONTNER SMITH [F.], London :

"It has hitherto been the custom to base an architect's commission where work is abandoned on a proportion of the recognized fee for the completed work. Seeing that where housing is concerned, the commission has already been reduced from 6 per cent. to $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. or less in some cases, Clause 5 of the Institute scale is not unreasonable and in my opinion should stand.

"Considering the very large amount of time involved in preliminary work where housing is concerned—and only those of us engaged upon it know what this means—in my view the proportion is not too great.

"In any case if the general opinion is that it might be reduced, the principle should be adhered to.

"I am given to understand that the Memoranda do not represent the agreement arrived at with the Ministry and therefore should not be accepted in their present form.

"To reduce our remuneration to the extent proposed is calculated to lower the status of the profession."

MR. GEO. T. BROWN [F.], Hon. Secretary, Northern Architectural Association : "Some members of this Association who have State-aided housing schemes in hand object to the proposed fees for abandoned work, but more strongly to the questions of 'Definition of Scheme' and the elimination of all out-of-pocket expenses. In particular, there is the case of a local authority having schemes on a number of sites and employing different architects. These architects work quite independently of each other, and when they were appointed on the agreed scale, the only interpretation was that each was in charge of a scheme and would be paid as such. If the new definition is accepted, however, it will mean a pooling of fees amongst all the architects, and is something which they contend was never suggested or intended when they were appointed or accepted the work on the scale as it then stood."

MR. JAS. T. CACKETT [F.], Newcastle-on-Tyne :

"I should like to draw attention to an actual case in which I am acting on behalf of three firms who are joint architects for a State-aided housing scheme of some 540 houses. The site for the houses is an exceedingly difficult one, on a bank side, and the position of the scheme at the moment is as follows :—

"Lay-out plan prepared and approved.

"Sketch plans for houses approved.

"Detailed plans for houses approved.

"Quantities are being taken off by surveyors.

"Plans for roads and sewers almost complete and quantities being taken off.

"The scale of fees agreed upon are those set out in Memorandum 31.

"The payment for the lay-out plan and sewers will, on this particular site, just cover the actual costs of preparation levels, etc. If the work goes on, the full payment for houses, together with sewers, etc., is £8,902 (assuming an average of £800 per house), whereas if abandoned the payment will only be £560, the difference for supervision practically being £7,669, which is manifestly absurd.

"The amount of £560 will by no means cover the expenses entailed in the work.

"It is true the proposed alteration states that 'special arrangements may be required in exceptional circumstances,' but even under the most favourable circumstances, if Memorandum 51 D and 52 are incorporated in clause 9, would the scale reach the long established ruling laid down in clause 5 ?

"If clause 9 is altered as proposed, I am of opinion that

clause 5 will be much interfered with, and will have to be reconsidered.

"I am also of opinion that the terms agreed, apparently by the Institute, as set out in Memoranda 51/D and 52, are ridiculously out of proportion."

MR. STANLEY J. WEARING [A.], Norwich :

"(1) Paragraph 2 of Housing Memorandum No. 52 says : 'Memoranda 4, 31, 52 are inclusive scales covering all out-of-pocket expenses.' I suggest this has never been so stated. Reliance, by myself and others I have spoken to on this matter, has been placed on the fact that any questions not dealt with in the memoranda on fees would be settled according to the custom of the profession. It is on this ruling that I—and I am sure others—have carried on in good faith, incurring somewhat heavy expenses in nearly all cases : in fact, those who have visited their work conscientiously and dealt with it by correspondence and otherwise in a business-like way are heavy losers.

"Does the 25 miles mean $12\frac{1}{2}$ out and $12\frac{1}{2}$ home, or 50 miles there and back ? In a county like Norfolk this is a very heavy item, as the train service is not only a poor one, but entirely useless for very many parts, involving train and cycle journeys or motor hire.

"(2) Apart from this question of out-of-pocket expenses, the other outstanding feature of this memorandum for abandoned work, as against previous memoranda, appears to be under the heading of House Plans (b), where the same basis, namely 5 per cent. on the first 12, etc., is taken, but fees are only allowed on the separate designs. This, in a case of, say, a scheme for 62 houses, and where only, strictly speaking, two separate designs are used, would work out at a ridiculously low figure in one case against the other.

"(3) There is no mention of quantities under the heading of 'House Plans.' I presume where these have been finished complete, the full scale would be allowed."

ASSOCIATION OF NORWICH ARCHITECTS' Telegram : "Special Meeting of Association makes strongest protest against non-payment of travelling expenses below 25 miles ; grave injustice in small, widely separated rural schemes ; also protests against scale for abandoned schemes as inadequate."

MR. THOS. RAYSON [A.], Oxford : "On behalf of the Committee of the Oxfordshire Society of Architects, I protest against the ratification of the latest Memorandum with reference to Architects' Fees."

PROFESSOR ADSHEAD [F.] :

"Although a member of the Committee that met the Ministry, I was only asked to attend two meetings, and I could not take entire responsibility for all that was settled, though I admit to being in general agreement with the scale as now drawn. The real point at issue is as to whether the scale is to be retrospective.

"At the last meeting of the Committee, when Sir Charles Ruthen was in the chair, this question of whether the fees were to be retrospective was very tentatively put forward by me, but the question was not really followed up. This, of course, however, is the serious point at issue, and evidently the Ministry know it, as in issuing their scale of fees now to be ratified, they have stated that the scale would apply in every case, except where an agreement providing for a specific payment for abandoned fees has been made between the local authority and architect, prior to the date of the Memorandum.

"Very few architects have any specific agreement at all other than an acceptance of the terms set out in Memoranda Nos. 4 and 31—an acceptance which has been proved by reason of instalments having been paid in accordance with the terms of these scales. Memorandum 31 makes no reference to any specific scale of fees for abandoned schemes, but includes a clause which sets out that the conditions of engagement of architects and surveyors shall be those customary in the respective professions, for example, generally, such as the conditions prescribed by the R.I.B.A.

and the Society of Architects in the case of engagement of architects.

"This appears to me to be the presentation of the legal aspect of the case, and it will remain for the Institute to decide as to whether they are to uphold the payment of fees for abandoned schemes on the basis of the Institute charge, in the case of agreements entered into previously to the making of this scale, or whether the profession is to be advised to accept a new reading.

"My view is, that the Institute will be well advised to seek a further interview with the Ministry, and have the whole of this question cleared up, as, whilst, as I said at the outset, I think the general fees for abandoned schemes is tolerably fair as regards later undertakings, an enormous amount of work was done in the first instance at very great expense to architects, which will never be paid for, and it will leave them out-of-pocket if this scale of abandoned schemes is retrospective."

Mr. HERBERT A. WELCH [A.] moved as an amendment that the matter be referred back for further consideration. As a member of the deputation—added rather late in the day—he felt the matter very keenly. The Ministry's statement that the terms and conditions set out in the Memorandum had been agreed by the Royal Institute and the Society of Architects was not correct, and it was particularly unfortunate that that communication had gone out to local authorities. He hoped that the Council had protested, or, if not, that they would take early steps to get the matter put right. For the past fifteen years he had had considerable experience of housing matters, and on the recommendation of the Practice Committee the Council nominated him to serve on the deputation which was conducting negotiations with the Ministry of Health on the question of housing fees. At his request Mr. Gibson furnished him with a type-written statement setting out the proposals which before he joined the deputation had been discussed and tentatively agreed between the Ministry and the deputation. He went very carefully into these proposals and discussed with Mr. Gibson certain modifications of them before going to the Ministry of Health. The deputation met the Ministry of Health on 6th May last when the whole matter was discussed, together with the modifications he had suggested. At that meeting, with the single exception of his suggestion as to what should be the real meaning of the word "schemes," the proposals were, in the main, agreed. At the conclusion of that meeting it was suggested that the Ministry should prepare a draft and that some one from the deputation should agree to that draft. Mr. Gibson was appointed by the deputation for that purpose. He learned afterwards—and he was sure Mr. Gibson would not mind his mentioning it—that Mr. Gibson had agreed to the draft with the Ministry, and he (Mr. Welch), as an individual member of the deputation, knew nothing more of it until at a later date he received from the Council what purported to be the agreed terms of the resolutions arrived at by the Ministry of Health, which terms the Council in the meantime had confirmed. He at once wrote to the Secretary R.I.B.A. and to Mr. Gibson stating that the terms as set out did not agree in some vital particulars with what was agreed by the deputation with the Ministry. Dealing with the variations between the printed form as agreed and the original proposals, Mr. Welch pointed out that in the preamble to No. 52 the original draft contained the words "or conditional approval" after the word "approval," but in the paper sent out by the Ministry these words were omitted. Then in No. II, Road and Sewers, sub-s. (i), the word "specifications," which was not in the original draft, had been introduced. It should not have been there, for it was pointed out to the Ministry that specifications would not be prepared at that stage. Then with regard to "quantities," it was explained to the Ministry that the preparation of quantities was no part of an architect's duties, and that it had been inserted in error in the previous memoranda.

The Ministry admitted the error, and agreed that it should come out. Yet it occurred again in Memorandum 52. With regard to par. 2, "In all cases of partially abandoned schemes, etc., etc.," he had no recollection of this having been discussed at all: this was the first he had heard of any reference to "three-quarters of the fees" mentioned in that clause. A further point he wished particularly to make was with regard to No. III, House Plans, par. 3: "In all cases of partially abandoned schemes fees in accordance with the preceding paragraph 2 will be payable for the abandoned work." That was quite wrong. What in fact was agreed was that fees in accordance with paragraph 1, sub-sections (i) and (ii), should be paid. That made a difference of 50 per cent. in the remuneration to be received by architects for abandoned plans. There had evidently been a misquotation or some such mistake—"paragraph 2" should have read "paragraph 1, sub-sections (i) and (ii)." These were the fundamental points of his criticism and were the reasons why he as a member of the deputation proposed that the matter be referred back for further consideration. He could not help feeling that the individual members of the deputation had not received the consideration they had a right to expect. The draft proposals should have been submitted to them before being sent to the Council, so that it might be clear to them that the final draft as agreed was in accordance with their intentions. He submitted that in future, when deputations were appointed, they should act as a body and do the work themselves rather than have it done for them.

Mr. HORACE CUBITT [A.] said that, speaking as a member of the deputation, his recollection was that the Ministry asked the deputation to appoint one among their number to go through the wording of the points raised, and agree them with the Ministry. A vote was taken, and Mr. Gibson was unanimously selected. Therefore it was rather unfair to Mr. Gibson that it should be now suggested that he should do something which it was never intended he should do.

Mr. WELCH said he had no intention of bringing Mr. Gibson's name into the matter. He (Mr. Welch) was appointed, not in an individual capacity but as a member of the Practice Committee, and was therefore responsible to the Committee for what was done. When Mr. Gibson was elected by the deputation to approve the draft, he suggested to Mr. Gibson that as a member specially appointed by the Practice Committee and answerable to them he would like to attend with Mr. Gibson. This Mr. Gibson readily agreed to.

Mr. W. G. WATKINS [A.] (Lincoln) seconded the amendment. The matter, he said, affected him financially to an extraordinary degree. He had been acting for a little over two years as architect to a rural council housing scheme. After a considerable time the local authority, advised by him, selected twenty-one sites, widely scattered over an area of roughly twenty-five miles by fifteen miles. They apportioned the houses to the sites, so many to each site—perhaps two on the least, rising to twenty on the largest site. Lay-out plans were made and paid for according to scale. Four type plans were adopted, the houses to be constructed in pairs according to locality and requirements. Separate tenders were invited for all the twenty-one sites, and applications were received for thirteen different sites, the quantities being sent to the builders for these thirteen sites. Although the four type plans were repeated on every site, there was a considerable amount of work that did not repeat. The sites were purely country sites: there were no sewers, no roads, no water, no gas. Every site had to be visited and treated on its merits; it had to be decided where the water supply should be, how deep the well, how many wells, where the sewer or, in some cases, the cesspool should be—sometimes there was a running stream and a septic tank was possible. They were separate things altogether. He submitted the thirteen sites to the Ministry, and the whole lot were turned down.

It happened about twelve months ago, at a time when the Ministry were getting "cold feet" and turning numbers of schemes down. He had several negotiations with builders after that, and eventually got prices for two sites which were accepted by the Ministry. By that time his council had got sick of the whole thing, and said they would have no more to do with it. Then came the question of fees. He was engaged on Housing Memorandum No. 31. He asked the Institute Practice Committee what he ought to charge, and they said two-thirds. He made up his account and sent it in; it amounted to £1,552 18s. Three or four days after the clerk to the council handed him Memorandum No. 52 and asked if he had seen it. He was astounded at what he read, and still more so at the statement that it had received the sanction of the Royal Institute of British Architects. He worked out the remuneration he should receive under Memorandum No. 52, and found that it amounted to £180. There were thirteen sites, and the remuneration was £180 for preparing the four type plans, getting in thirteen tenders, with the subsidiary items thrown in. One or two curious anomalies he would call attention to. One of his sites contained the four types of plan, so that had that particular site constituted the whole scheme the payment would have been the same as for the thirteen sites. He would have had twelve sites unpaid for, and all the work in connection with them unpaid for. He had worked out what the quantity surveyor's fees would be—£931. £931 to the quantity surveyor, £180 for the architect! The new Memorandum did not alter the old one as regards completed schemes, so that had his scheme gone to fruition his fees would have been £2,300, so it followed that the difference between £180 and £2,300 was for superintendence—£2,120 for superintendence, £180 for bringing the scheme to the point of starting work! He need not labour the point further. They could see why he had come all this way to oppose the resolutions. This was not an exceptional case: it was a normal case in rural areas. A neighbour of his, a Fellow of the Institute, had quite a small rural scheme, a one-type plan on six sites. His fee would be £45.

Mr. LEONARD ELKINGTON [A.] said he was not entirely in sympathy with the amendment. These resolutions emanated from the Council, and he considered that it was only due to the Institute and to the members attending that meeting that some one from the Council should be there to explain the circumstances under which it was necessary to alter the scale of fees which had been agreed and accepted by the Institute, to explain why negotiations should have been entered into by the Council of the Institute with the Ministry of Health, and to have given some insight into the factors which had led the deputation to make so utterly bad a bargain.

Mr. J. S. GIBSON [F.], rising at the instance of the Chairman, said he wished first to refer to the little personal matter raised by Mr. Welch. At a meeting of the deputation attended by members of the Institute and the Society of Architects, he had consented to supervise the drafting on behalf of both bodies. He would have been very glad if Mr. Welch could have accompanied him to the Ministry, but unfortunately there was no time to make any arrangements. He attended in response to a telephone message from the Ministry, and then drafted the proposals. Having cleared up that little matter, he would endeavour to explain the whole subject as far as it was known to him. First, he had no responsibility whatever for the original Memorandum or for No. 31, which was agreed about August, 1919, when he was not a member of the Council or the deputation. The reason that gave rise to the meetings with the Ministry of Health and the publication of their recent Memoranda was because no provision had apparently been made in previous Memoranda for payment to architects for the preparation of schemes which had been abandoned, or partially abandoned. ["No, no."] It was true that Memorandum 31 stated that the conditions generally of the employment of architects should

apply; but that point was distinctly taken up, and the Treasury officials denied that there was any liability. Members might take it from him that the Treasury would not pay one penny piece under Memorandum 31 for abandoned or partially abandoned work.

Mr. WELCH: I have received payment under No. 4 and No. 31 for abandoned work on the scale set down in those Memoranda and on the two-thirds fees of the R.I.B.A. scale.

Mr. GIBSON: That point was one of the earliest dealt with, and the Treasury took the view that they were not liable for payment, and that they would not pay. This was the principal reason why the negotiations had been entered into. Originally everybody expected that the housing schemes would go on rapidly, and money would be forthcoming without stint. That a scheme should be abandoned never occurred to any one. A reaction, however, had set in, and at the instance of the Ministry of Health schemes were being abandoned, wholly or partially, all over the country.

Mr. J. H. KENNARD [F.]: The local authorities have given the order and they must pay.

Mr. GIBSON: The real authority is the Ministry of Health, which provides the funds. The local authority cannot pay a single penny except out of their own rates. As regards the negotiations between the Ministry and the Institute and the Society of Architects, he regretted that it was only at a late stage of the proceedings that Mr. Welch came on to the deputation and helped them with his valuable advice. He would like to deal in some detail with the points raised by Mr. Welch. In regard to the incorporation of the words "preparation of quantities" in the Roads and Sewers contract, it was true that in the earlier part of the negotiations, through inadvertence on the part of all concerned, including the Ministry, no provision had been made for payment for roads and sewers; it was entirely through Mr. Welch's good offices that that point was taken up. But at the meeting at which Mr. Welch was present the question of roads and sewers was definitely brought up and also the question of the provision of quantities by architects. He thought Mr. Welch's memory was at fault when he stated that those words had been inserted in the original document through inadvertence. It was distinctly put to the Ministry at the meeting that it was not the architect's business to provide bills of quantities. The deputation admitted that in the North and Midlands there were architects who supplied quantities, or prepared them as part of their practice; but this did not obtain in the South. But the Ministry did not at that meeting agree that these words had been inserted in the original document through inadvertence. And when he went at a later stage to agree the draft the Ministry produced clear evidence that at a meeting with a large deputation consisting of members of the Institute and the Society of Architects when Memorandum 31 was agreed, the provision of quantities by the architect as part of his payment for the roads and sewers work was discussed and was deliberately agreed to. That put him in a very difficult position, because one cannot go back on what had been agreed by a deputation dealing with the same subject on a previous occasion even though it might be an injustice, and all he could do was to express surprise that any deputation had agreed to such terms and say that he should report it to the Council of the Institute. He did report it, and the Council agreed with him that if any body of men representing the profession had agreed to certain terms with the Ministry it was extremely unwise to go back on those terms and to try and alter them. As to payment for partially abandoned schemes, the view of the Ministry was that the architect had carried out a certain portion of his work and had been paid for it, but that he was also entitled to charge as a new design any design that would have been built had the scheme not been partially abandoned. That was the reason why it was put in as "paragraph 2" and not as "paragraph 1." Speaking on the whole matter, he thought the Institute Council had come

quite honestly to the conclusion that this document was an attempt, made in perfect good faith, by the Institute and the Ministry to arrive at a reasonable settlement for the payment of architects for work that had been done in good faith. In the event of this not being accepted as a settlement the view was held—perhaps wrongly—that there would be no redress for any architect whose scheme was either abandoned or partially abandoned except by going to law and establishing his position. [A MEMBER : So much the better.] He had a little experience of the law, and if members thought it was better to establish their claim by bringing a test case then that was the proper action for them to take. If, on the contrary, after reflection of the whole matter, they thought that some specific terms ensuring payment for services, not at all in accordance with the scale they were perfectly justified in expecting—but payment which would reimburse them for the time expended and for out-of-pocket expenses [“It does not”] it was an alternative policy which might be worth consideration. The difficulty of legislating for individuals was insurmountable. The fees that had been arranged from time to time were arranged on a broad basis, and if an agreement was to be come to with the Ministry, it would have to be a national agreement. But hardships there would be. In legislating nationally, inequalities could not be avoided. To speak frankly, it was up to members to tell the Council that they did not want an agreement other than the documents already published. The Council, he was sure, would give most serious consideration to what was said. [A MEMBER : Is it not too late?] He could not see that it was too late. The Ministry had published in No. 51 a statement that it had the approval of the Institute. But that was entirely unauthorised; the Council would never sanction anything of that nature without its having been submitted to and endorsed by the General Body.

A MEMBER : Could not that be cleared up? No. 51 D states definitely that the terms have been agreed by the Institute.

The SECRETARY : Memorandum No. 4 (now in the Institute scale as Clause 9) was agreed with the Ministry and accepted by the General Body and put into the Scale. Then, in response to the Ministry's invitation, the Council agreed No. 31, but the very day that a meeting of the General Body was to be held to sanction No. 31 a message came from the Ministry asking that the document should be withheld as the Ministry had further communications to make on the matter. No. 31 has never been approved by the General Body. Negotiations then took place mainly on the question of abandoned schemes, and the present meeting was called to ratify the terms which are set out in the Memoranda just issued and which the Council have agreed with the Ministry. The Ministry have been informed that the Council have approved and that the matter has now to receive the sanction of the General Body.

Mr. SYDNEY PERKS, F.S.A. [F.] Chairman of the Housing Sub-Committee of the Practice Committee, referring to the statement in Memorandum No. 31 that the conditions of engagement should be those which are customary, said that he had always regarded Memorandum No. 31 as part of the Institute scale. He had been informed that the Ministry's idea was that the customary conditions could not be read into the document because the word “generally” was used. But that was a most unworthy attitude to take up. The Council had authorised the Practice Committee to state a case for the opinion of counsel, and no doubt members would be advised of the result. He asked the meeting to vote against the amendment in order that he might move another amendment—viz., “That this General Meeting of the R.I.B.A. repudiates the scale in Memorandum No. 52.”

Mr. WELCH said he thought the suggested amendment too destructive. His amendment to refer the matter back was constructive, and was made in that form because he believed it impossible to get the Ministry to agree to a scale

of remuneration for abandoned work on the basis of Housing Memoranda Nos. 4 and 31 applying thereto the R.I.B.A. Scale fee for abandoned work. He thought better terms could be obtainable by getting a more favourable definition of the term “scheme.” He considered the Ministry's idea of considering schemes on various sites promoted by a local authority as one scheme only was a mistake, especially in rural areas. He suggested the following definition: “That in urban districts where two separate sites comprising a scheme are within easy reach of each other, the sites shall for the purpose of calculating the fees payable for abandoned work be considered as one site.” He suggested this because in the majority of cases in urban areas the architects employed have had erected a fair proportion of houses and have been paid accordingly, and therefore the comparative loss would not be so heavy. Again: “In boroughs and larger districts where each site is being considered by one or more architects, all such sites shall be dealt with separately on the same basis; in rural areas where sites are scattered the site pertaining to each village or locality shall be considered separately.” Therein he considered laid one chance of getting better and more equitable conditions, because it was manifestly unfair to architects employed by authorities on a rural scheme to be paid on the same basis as those employed on an urban scheme. The architect of a rural scheme had enormous distances to travel, in addition to which each site had peculiarities such as water, drainage, fencing, and the like, for which there was no standardised method of dealing. Each had to be solved separately.

Mr. GEOFFREY LUCAS [F.] suggested that if they were bound to publish the Ministry's scale it should not be published as part of the R.I.B.A. Scale, but on a separate slip. They did not want to send to private clients and to public bodies a scale which contained terms that were quite contrary to their rights. As to Resolution (2) before the meeting, he would suggest that the documents referred to should not be printed in the KALENDAR. As a Member of Council he might say that he was in the North of England when this question of fees for abandoned schemes came before the Council, and he very much regretted not being present, for the scale was utterly ridiculous, and the Ministry was imposing upon architects from every point of view. That they could argue that the conditions of engagement did not apply to the whole of the document was positive absurdity, and an indignity that they must not put up with.

Mr. LEONARD ELKINGTON [A.] said they owed their thanks to Mr. Gibson for his frank statement, but even with it he doubted whether they could thoroughly understand and appreciate the factors which led the deputation to adopt the scheme. Mr. Gibson said that their primary difficulty was to interpret clause 5 of the Scale of Charges into the conditions of engagement which were an essential part of Memoranda 4 and 31. The deputation appeared to have accepted the views of the Treasury officials, and the Council were at fault in not awaiting the advice of the Practice Committee, whose function it was to consider and advise on such a point as this. The Chairman of a Sub-Committee of the Practice Committee had informed them that that very point had been deemed one on which legal advice should be taken. A point of that nature should not have been assented to at the dictation of the Treasury officials without legal advice. Fortunately, they had Mr. Welch's direct evidence that in two cases fees had been paid in full, under Memorandum No. 4 or No. 31, on the basis of clause 5 of the Scale of Charges. The objections to Memorandum No. 52 were threefold: (1) the extraordinary delimitation of expenses; (2) the absurd scale for abandoned work; (3) the extraordinary definition of the word “Schemes.” It was absurd to attempt to lay down that legal contracts, properly made under seal, and based upon a document emanating from the Government, were to be corrected and amended by any chance leaflet issued by the Government, which, after all, was not a party to definite

agreements between the architects and their clients the local authorities. The better course would have been for the Council to have awaited legal advice, and if necessary to have got material from members concerned in housing schemes for a test case against the Government before discussing, much less appearing to accept, a document of this sort. Mr. Gibson, a most able negotiator, had made what he considered the best terms he could under the peculiar position in which he was placed. But he had not explained why the deputation had been led into agreeing that the word "Scheme" in a document published some months previously should now have a different interpretation from what it was clearly intended to have originally. It was a most extraordinary situation. The deputation, if they were discussing fees for abandoned work, ought never to have allowed expenses or the definition of the word "Scheme" to have been imported into the discussion. The Ministry's motive was to whittle down the architects' fees, and the attempt should be resisted with all the force they were capable of. He thought they would be stronger if they took action on the lines indicated by Mr. Perks, and leave the Council to extricate the Institute from the mess into which it had been placed.

Mr. J. H. KENNARD [F.] instanced a scheme with fifty houses, the contract being drawn in full for the whole fifty. Twenty had been proceeded with and the other thirty abandoned. On the signing of the contract the architects' fees were paid in the customary manner, one half of the fees for the housing on the whole of the fifty. It was specifically stated in the accounts sent to the Council who paid that money that such was the case. How could those two later documents be held to apply if the other thirty houses were abandoned? There had been a payment made and accepted on that basis, so that the architects had already drawn one-half of the fees on the abandoned thirty houses. It was a position which might easily lead to legal action against the architects, and therefore he thought that Mr. Perks's amendment should be supported. The bulk of the members of the Institute, he felt, had been badly let down—very badly let down—by negotiators who, in the majority, were not familiar with housing practice. The advice ought to have been asked of members who were known to be largely engaged in housing work. In the Ministry's Form of Contract the builder might claim his anticipated profits in the event of his work being abandoned. Why should the architect be deprived of his anticipated profits? He had twice refused private work because he felt he was not justified in accepting it owing to the amount of housing work he had in hand. If the housing schemes were to be cut down, surely he was entitled to some sort of anticipated profit on such housing schemes as he was engaged on, to compensate him for loss of other work. It seemed to him that the Ministry had put a pistol to the heads of the deputation and told them that they had to agree or they would get nothing. The dignified course to have taken was to decline to negotiate any further. He would support Mr. Perks's amendment.

Mr. HORACE CUBITT suggested that in order to strengthen the hands of the Institute in dealing with this matter, every member concerned with housing work who objected to this Memorandum should write to the Secretary stating his own case and giving all particulars. They would then get a considerable volume of evidence which would enable the matter to be dealt with on better lines. With regard to rural housing schemes, members would recall that after Memorandum No. 4 was issued an addition was made to the scale of housing fees for rural work. An extra half per cent. was obtained from the Ministry; so there was a precedent, and he felt sure they would be able to get better terms for rural schemes. Members seemed to assume that Memorandum 51D had been agreed by the Council with the Ministry. That was not so. The Council, probably unwisely, agreed to waive the claim for travelling expenses on distances under twenty-five miles, but they did not agree to the clause in Memorandum 51D, which said: "The

scales of fees in General Housing Memoranda Nos. 4, 31, and 52 are inclusive scales covering all out-of-pocket expenses." The Council had not agreed that with the Ministry, and he suggested that the Secretary be instructed to write to the Ministry pointing out that this was a mis-statement.

Mr. A. W. HENNINGS [F.] suggested that the proper method of going to work would be for members themselves to put pressure on the Ministry. In Manchester they had a very large scheme, and half a dozen architects were appointed and panels made. The architects did their work; all their plans were turned down: they sent in a bill to the Corporation on account of the amount they considered they were entitled to. They got what they applied for, but it was only on account. The proper way was for members to send in their accounts and press for them, and not to submit to circulars which were sent out by the Ministry as a guide to local authorities.

Mr. T. ALWYN LLOYD [F.] said there was a deliberate move on the part of the Ministry to cut down urban schemes as well as rural schemes, and not only did that apply to abandoned schemes, for the Ministry were endeavouring to reduce existing contracts. Members should realise that if this sort of thing went through they would find that, supposing a contract were for 100 houses, it would be reduced to 50. Then that would be treated, although the scheme was actually in their hands and formed part of a contract, as an abandoned scheme. The point of abandoned rural schemes did not affect him to any extent personally, so he could speak with greater freedom, and he urged members to pass both amendments, if possible, for they were not necessarily contradictory. If they refused to ratify, and at the same time referred the present scale back, they would be doing the right thing. He hoped their representatives would not accept the Treasury view, as they seem disposed to have done in the past, because obviously that could not now be the architects' view. The sole purpose of the Treasury was to cut down every house they possibly could, by foul means or by fair; they were engaged in cutting down existing contracts, trying to induce builders to give up profits, and so on. The question of Quantities had been raised. He had suggested to the Institute Committee that members who were actually engaged on housing schemes would be glad to come up to the Institute—he himself had come from Cardiff specially for this meeting—to give their views on this question of Quantities, but so far he had not been favoured with an invitation. He hoped if this matter was referred back that the Committee would do those who were engaged in housing operations the courtesy of asking them to come and lay their views before the Committee. He thought they could be of real help.

Mr. Welch's amendment, being put to the vote, was lost. A discussion then ensued as to the exact wording of Mr. Perks's amendment, which was finally seconded by Mr. G. H. Kennard, and passed by the meeting *nem. con.* in the following form:—

"That this General Meeting declines to alter the Scale of Charges by approving Memoranda 52 and 51D, and calls on the Council to repudiate the statement that the Royal Institute of British Architects has agreed to them."

The proceedings then terminated.

Acquisition of Land for Housing Schemes.

The following General Housing Memorandum No. 53 has been issued by the Ministry of Health:—

1. In view of the fact that the arrangements for the acquisition of land for housing sites are already in advance of the requirements for the building work likely to be put in hand in the immediate future, local authorities should not at the present stage incur further commitments in regard to sites without previous reference to the Housing Commissioner.

2. It is therefore requested that the local authority will obtain the specific authority of the Housing Commissioner—

- (a) before completing the purchase of any site for which negotiations have been completed, but for which no binding contract has been entered into;
- (b) before obtaining valuations or undertaking negotiations for the acquisition of new sites for housing purposes either directly or through the Valuation Office.

3. The Council should also consult the Housing Commissioner on the question whether existing negotiations, either directly or through the Valuation Office, should be continued.

4. In cases where a compulsory order has been made and confirmed, but no notice to treat has yet been served, the Housing Commissioner should be consulted before any further action is taken. If he concurs that the land in question will not be required for the purpose of the assisted scheme, the persons who have been served with notice of the order should be notified that the local authority do not propose to exercise their powers. In any such cases where the local authority may have requested the Valuation Office to reopen negotiations, the Valuation Office should be requested to break off these negotiations.

The Housing Problem in the Villages.

Mr. Maurice Hewlett's account in *The Times* of the 12th inst. of the housing muddle in a rural district of Wiltshire is typical of the state of affairs in numerous districts, rural and urban, throughout the country. Mr. Hewlett, who is on a rural district council and member of its housing committee, writes :—

I was chosen in 1919, with the Housing Act before me. I knew the need of the villages, realized the duties cast on local authority by the Act, and, whatever I may have thought of the scheme, of its financial merits, or chances of success, I accepted it explicitly. I knew that I was tied to the statute, but I took the thing upon its face value, and was prepared to devote my nights and days to it. And so I did, and so did my colleagues. A housing committee was appointed at the first meeting of the new council. I may say that for two and a half years we have never met less than once a fortnight, and have frequently met oftener. We began operations by requisitioning from all the parish councils we served estimates of the number of cottages needed, and of existing cottages which ought to be condemned as soon as substitutes could be provided. Having those, we visited in turn every village, and many more than once, to select sites for new houses, and judge for ourselves of the condition of old ones. The expense of all this, which was considerable, fell, I may say, upon ourselves.

There, then, was our work cut out. Under the provisions of the Act, goaded at every turn by the feverish activity of numberless officials, all anxious, as Mr. George would say, "to deliver the goods," harangued and admonished by the Ministerial Press, we did acquire, at prices settled by Government, some 42 acres of land scattered about in some 24 villages, and borrowed from the Loan Commissioners, in order to pay for it, over £5,800 of public money at 6 per cent., which we have no more chance of repaying than the man in the moon. We instructed architects who, enlisted under terms laid down in a Memorandum 31, set to work with their quantity-surveyors to lay out the sites, and prepare plans and specifications for Ministerial approval. That being obtained, we advertised for tenders, received some, and were badly frightened. The famous "penny rate" limit of our liability, as we were repeatedly assured, produced in our district about £180, less than the quarter of the cost of one cottage. Acquainted

as we all were, with the powers of Parliament, and, as some of us were, with the peculiar methods of Mr. George, we saw that we were about to become debtors to the Government on the face of things for £200,000, on which the interest at 6 per cent. would accumulate for 80 years. Beyond that, we were to be responsible for the upkeep of 240 cottages.

This, Sir, was the bubble solemnly kept in the air by the Government, quite regardless of expense or time or trouble, for 2½ years. During that time, let me tell you, one of our architects was required to produce three successive plans and specifications for the same cottages, all of which were successively "approved" by the Ministry! But enough of that. The bubble was burst in my hearing a month ago, when the District Housing Commissioner, in an interview sought by himself, felt it his duty to tell me that the Government did not intend to sanction any rural housing schemes at all. That information has recently been confirmed by Sir Alfred Mond.

The position of affairs, here, therefore, is this :—

1. The housing problem in the villages is aggravated rather than eased by anything which has been done. Insanitary and ruinous cottages have gone further to decay. Overcrowding is insufferable. Public opinion has been raised, and when the truth is known it will be exasperated.

2. My council (to confine myself to that) finds itself owner or contracted purchaser of land, bought with borrowed money at accommodation prices, in a scattered district. It is not only in debt, it is responsible for the rates, and as frontager and adjoining owners must maintain hedges and repair roads.

3. Under compulsion of the bubble Act architects and surveyors have been at work for two years and a half. On the faith of my council, and under the Ministry's Memorandum 31, they were entitled to certain fees for work done and out-of-pocket expenses. What is their position? The District Housing Commissioner, when I asked him that, produced a certain Memorandum 52, only just then issued, which provided that architects employed upon what the Ministry pleasantly calls "abandoned schemes" should receive at the outside one-quarter of the amount which by Memorandum 31 was agreed to be paid at the time of their engagement. Memorandum 52, it must be observed, was not issued until the Government had decided to abandon rural housing.

4. Lastly, I calculate that I alone have spent of my own substance, in wasted time, 16 days of 12 hours each, and in wasted motor hire £50.

If I had been the citizen of some South American Republic I should not have been surprised at a breach of faith on this scale. I should have calculated the risks and taken office with my eyes open. In Great Britain, however, otherwise governed for a thousand years, the South American practice has not been followed until now, when Mr. George has taught the Civil Service to do what no private employer could do without liability to prosecution.

The implication, however, which I hope the country will face, is much more serious. I serve one small rural district in one county of England. There the Government contemplated an expenditure of £200,000; not only contemplated, but insisted, under threat of pain and penalty, that the expenditure should be incurred. A substantial portion of it was incurred accordingly. That has been done all over England. My council is left with land which it does not want and liability which it cannot afford. So have all the rural district councils in England. I have pledged my honour to professional men and am unable to redeem it. So have all district councillors in England. What is one to say, or what is one to do? Is the delinquency moral or mental? At the time the Act was passed no sane man believed it was serious. Did the Government believe it? Anyhow, they have spent our money for us—on nothing at all, and left us in debt. I hope we have had enough South American politics.

Rural Housing.

The Times of the 14th inst. published the following letter from the President:—

SIR,—Mr. Maurice Hewlett's letter in your issue of 12th July calls the attention of the public to a subject of painful interest to architects. I can emphatically endorse everything that Mr. Hewlett says on the professional side of the matter. The Memorandum No. 52, to which he refers, was rejected by a unanimous vote of the Royal Institute of British Architects on 4th July, as its terms were held to be unfair to members of the profession who have worked so hard in the last two years to ensure the success of the housing scheme.—Faithfully yours,

PAUL WATERHOUSE,
President R.I.B.A.

Sir Alfred Mond's Housing Proposals.

In the debate on the Government's Housing policy in the House of Commons on the 21st inst., Sir Alfred Mond denied that the Government was giving up the whole of its housing programme. Under an arrangement, he said, made between his predecessor and the then Chancellor of the Exchequer, the housing schemes had been reduced to between 200,000 and 300,000 houses. The difference between what his predecessor accepted and what he (Sir A. Mond) now accepted was, perhaps, a question of 20,000 or 25,000 houses. We had now a permanent burden for 60 years, of £10,000,000 a year on our taxes in order to provide these houses. We had incurred a commitment of over £600,000,000 and the Government were trying to review the situation at a time when there were sufficient contracts and tenders approved to occupy for at least twelve or eighteen months the whole building facilities of the country. Was not that the best time, he asked, to call a halt, and was that not the only method? Roughly, we should spend ten millions a year for sixty years. They were in a very difficult quagmire, and what they wanted to do was to allow business to stabilize. If contracts which had been taken at high prices and could not be carried out had been delayed, the houses would cost less money. The saving he was effecting was 4½ millions. What would be the use of proceeding with great building schemes if the result was to increase taxation, unemployment, and trade depression? He was not unhopeful that arrangements would be made by which local authorities who desired to complete schemes which had been developed would be enabled to do so. In any event no losses in respect of postponed schemes would fall upon local authorities beyond the penny rate. He proposed to be generous and fair to the local authorities. Any reasonable expenditure incurred in the preparation of plans and specifications in connection with suspended schemes would be recognised as entitled to financial assistance. Care would be taken that local authorities should not suffer financial hardship in consequence of the abandonment of schemes.

As regards subsidised houses, Sir Alfred Mond said that between 25,000 and 30,000 houses had been erected under the builders' subsidy. He found that many of the houses did not really come within the purpose of the housing scheme. About one-third of the houses so erected were working-class dwellings and among the remainder were such houses as week-end bungalows. Certificates issued under the subsidy lapsed in cases where construction was not begun before 1st July. A certificate holder who desired to proceed must make an application before 25th August. Any such person would be compelled to prove to the satisfaction of the local authority that he had entered into actual commitments before 15th July. The same condition was laid down for other persons who desired to build

under subsidy and who had not got the length of obtaining Certificate A. It was his intention to interpret the term "commitment" in a generous and liberal spirit; generally, any expenditure incurred in anticipation of the subsidy would be regarded as a commitment, such as the purchase of land or any other contractual obligation, including financial liability. It was only fair and right that, because the Government had found it necessary to change their policy, people should not suffer actual financial loss.

Explaining what it was intended to do in regard to slums, Sir Alfred Mond said that he regarded this as perhaps the most urgent housing question, and that possibly it might have been better if they had begun at that end rather than to undertake so much new construction. He was a little sceptical of those expert gentlemen who said that the only possible method of dealing with houses condemned for human habitation was to pull them down and build them somewhere else. His experience had shown that if these experts were told that the money was not there for their possibly perfect but probably most expensive schemes, they would devise a scheme perhaps not so perfect but which would achieve the object in view. He was very anxious that they should not do nothing because they could not get the ideally best. If they could not rebuild because they had not got the funds, do not let them debar themselves from improving what could be improved until they could build. That was why he had been so anxious to make a start, and he knew of a case in London—a slum area which it was an actual disgrace to this Imperial city that it should be allowed to exist for another week—which he could make a beginning with. He was certain that if they could make a start, the force of public opinion, sensible of the good results, would compel still more money to be spent on this object.

He was greatly concerned, as they all must be, at the whole position. But it was no use building garden cities for an insolvent people. It was no use providing houses at rents which he had been assured by hon. members opposite working men could not afford to pay. In view of the financial conditions, it was practically impossible for the Government not to adopt the course which it was adopting to-day.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Nicholas Hawksmoor (*ante*, p. 485).

22, *Ashley Place, Westminster*, 29 June 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

DEAR SIR,—When recently preparing a paper on Greenwich Hospital for the Greenwich and Lewisham Antiquarian Society, I spent some time looking through the original books of the Hospital preserved among the State Papers in the Record Office. Of these books the minutes of the Commissioners occupy 265 folio volumes, and the accounts no less than 887, of which 217 apply exclusively to the works. From this material much reliable information about the Hospital and the persons connected with it can be extracted. As is well known, Sir C. Wren undertook the post of Surveyor gratis. He was allowed to engage Hawksmoor as his clerk and assistant at a salary of £50 per annum, to be paid by the Commissioners. The latter received other emoluments, as on 8th October 1697 it was resolved that "Mr. N. Hawksmoor Surveyor-General's Clerk who made all the draughts for the building be paid £20 by the Treasurer."

John Scarborow, appointed first Clerk of Works in

1696, with a salary of 5s. a day, died the same year, and was succeeded by Henry Simmons, Clerk of Works at Hampton Court. The latter died in June 1698.

There were three candidates for the vacant post, Mr. N. Hawksmoor, Mr. J. James, and a Mr. Wakup. The first was elected on condition that he resided on the place. He was to continue as Clerk to Mr. Surveyor with his former salary of £50 per annum and 4s. per day as Clerk of Works. James was appointed storekeeper and watchman as a consolation prize.

At the fortnightly meetings of the Committee of Fabric Hawksmoor was constantly in request, every detail of the building being referred to him. In 1705 John James' name appears as assistant to the Clerk of Works, and Hawksmoor was employed on work more especially belonging to the architect. In 1718 James was appointed Clerk of Works in conjunction with Hawksmoor, and the two men acted together until 1733, when owing to lack of funds the directors suspended the allowances of the two clerks of works. Thomas Ripley, who was surveyor at the time, took on James as his own clerk at a salary of £50 per annum, and generously allowed Hawksmoor £50 out of his own salary. When the work of building began again in 1735 Ripley expressed a wish to enjoy his full salary without encumbrances, and James was thereupon appointed storekeeper and Clerk of Works. Another official was granted the use of Hawksmoor's house, who was desired to remove his goods.

The records do not support the view that Sir John Vanbrugh designed the brick building on the west side of the King William Court. This was begun in the year 1701 and roofed in before Vanbrugh was made a Director in 1703. Wren's model preserved in the Royal Naval College Museum shows the building substantially as it exists. It must have been designed by him or by Hawksmoor acting under his direction.

The story is complicated by the fact that the Secretary to the Commissioners was a Mr. William Vanbrugh, and it was no doubt to him that Wren wrote the letter in the possession of the Institute.—Yours very faithfully,

ARTHUR D. SHARP, *Licentiate.*

Height of Buildings in London.

38, Coleman Street, Bank, 4 July 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

SIR,—With reference to Mr. W. R. Davidge's letter in the JOURNAL of the 25th June, the Institute Building Act Committee was appointed by the Council to investigate the height of buildings, the cubical contents thereof, and cognate subjects, as a consequence of the suggestions thrown out in Mr. Austen Hall's paper on "Departmental Stores" and my paper on "Higher Buildings for London."

This Committee has held numerous meetings during the past 15 months, during which it has gathered together a large amount of evidence and material, and, after carefully considering this, it has prepared a scheme for submission to the Council.

The Committee decided, before submitting its scheme to the Council, to ascertain what measure of support it would be likely to receive from the authorities concerned, and, with this object, the Committee has had conferences with the Building Act Committee of the London County Council, the Fire Brigade Committee of the London County Council, the City Lands Committee of the Corporation, and the Society of Medical Officers of Health. At each of these conferences I was requested by my colleagues to lay their scheme and their arguments before the respective bodies, and, in each case, I prefaced my remarks with the statement that the views put forward were the views of the Institute Committee only, that they had not yet been submitted to the Council, and that, before submitting them to the Council, it was desired to elicit, if possible, the views of the various authorities concerned. When the work of the Institute Committee has been concluded, a report will be prepared and submitted to the Council, when they will have every opportunity of considering the Committee's report and of coming to a decision thereon.—Yours faithfully,

DELISSA JOSEPH [F.].

The *Observer* of the 24th inst. published the following from Mr. Delissa Joseph :—

22 July 1921.

SIR,—In order to avoid any misunderstanding, I shall feel obliged if you will allow me to point out that the scheme for "Higher Buildings for London," which has been prepared by the Building Act Committee of the Royal Institute of British Architects, has not yet been submitted to the Council of the Institute, and that therefore the Council have not yet had an opportunity of forming an opinion thereon.—Yours obediently,

DELISSA JOSEPH,

Joint Hon. Sec., London Building
Act Committee, R.I.B.A.

Unification and Registration Committee.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

DEAR SIR,—Mr. Arthur Keen is such a hard-working, good friend to the R.I.B.A. that we are loth to criticise him, but we do respectfully suggest that the letters of our Hon. Secretary should be accurate, whether the matter be Registration, Unification, or the Improvement Scheme carried out at the Marble Arch. Mr. Keen refers us to the Report of the Committee, but it has made no report. The facts, for Mr. Keen's information, are as follows :—

The Sub-Committee made a Report in April; this was considered by the Committee in May, and the following resolutions were passed :—

1. That the principle of Scheme A—namely, the bringing of all the architects of the United Kingdom into membership of the R.I.B.A.—be adopted as the basis for unification.
2. That the matter be referred to the Sub-Committee to consider details and report to the Main Committee.

3. That the Committee recommend the Royal Institute to draft such alterations of its Charter and By-laws as may be necessary to comply with the principle of Scheme A, adopted this day by the Unification and Registration Committee, and to confer with the Council of the Society of Architects as to conditions of membership.

4. That six additional representatives of the Allied Societies be selected by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman from the members of the Main Committee to serve upon the Sub-Committee.

If Mr. Keen will kindly compare our previous letter with the above resolutions he will see that it was based upon those conclusions.

Unification is practically impossible without first obtaining registration. We must follow the example of the dentists and pass a Registration Bill before we tamper with our constitution. We hope Mr. Arthur Keen agrees.—Yours obediently,

ALFRED W. S. CROSS, *Vice-President*.
H. D. SEARLES-WOOD, *Vice-President*.
GEORGE HUBBARD [F.].
SYDNEY PERKS [F.].
DIGBY L. SOLOMON [A.].

Re Annual Report (ante, pp. 427, 462, 490).

29 June 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

DEAR SIR,—I would not further trespass on your space with reference to the above matter, saving the fact that I owe it to my friend Mr. Welch to clear any aspersion on his capabilities which might be read into my letter of the 17th inst. He has informed me that he is not and never has been a Member of the Scale of Charges Committee, which as a matter of fact I took for granted. Mr. Keen's statement, therefore, was in error, and puts still stronger force into the point I raised. As an individual, of course, Mr. Welch's special knowledge makes him admirably fitted to deputise for the Institute, but this does not relieve the Institute of its responsibility to get the best possible representatives from *all* sources, and obviously the very first body to be consulted should be the Committee which has rendered such strenuous and excellent service for years past on the precise matter in question.—Yours truly,

P. M. FRASER [F.].

4 July 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.—

DEAR SIR,—In the JOURNAL of 25th June Mr. P. M. Fraser further deals with the R.I.B.A. Annual Report and replies in particular to the letter from Mr. Arthur Keen, published in the JOURNAL of 11th June last.

I have no desire to "butt in" between these two worthies so long as they confine the tussle to themselves, but they seem to have missed each other with one of their little "jabs" and I appear to have intercepted it. In Mr. Keen's letter he states that "Mr. Welch was appointed a member of the deputation to meet the Ministry of Health as a representative of the

Scale of Charges Sub-Committee." Mr. Fraser in turn takes up this point and states, "With regard to the appointments to the deputation to the Ministry of Health regarding the Scale of Charges I was not speaking of any sub-Committee; I referred to the Scale of Charges Special Committee, at which Mr. Welch never put in an appearance, and the fact now made clear, that he was appointed on the grounds of his special knowledge, throws some light on the lack of consideration given by the Council to this important matter." I need quote no further.

Now both of these gentlemen are wide of the mark in their statements. The actual facts are as follow:

The deputation to the Ministry of Health had been in existence for some considerable period when the Housing sub-Committee of the Practice Standing Committee requested that I should be nominated a member of the deputation to represent the Practice Committee with especial regard to housing. The Practice Committee in due course adopted their sub-Committee's recommendation and forwarded it to the Council, who then added my name to the deputation as representing the *Practice Committee*. I am not nor have I ever been a member of "The Scale of Charges Special Committee."

Since my appointment to the deputation one meeting only has been held with the Ministry of Health, and at that meeting I was present. I have therefore served a full "possible" number of attendances. Further, I requested that I might be allowed to be present when the "draft" of our deliberations was finally agreed. My request was granted, but I was not apprised of the date of the meeting, nor was I (as a member of the deputation) given an opportunity to see the draft until it reached me in printed form after having been agreed to by the Council.

I consider that this draft does not by any means accurately represent the conclusions we arrived at.—Yours, etc.

HERBERT A. WELCH [A.].

[Members may be glad to know the precise facts in this matter. There was no representative of the "Scale of Charges Committee" on the deputation because that Committee was wound up at the end of the Session 1918-19 on the completion of its task of drafting the new Scale of Charges adopted in 1919. Mr. Welch was not a member of that Committee.

In the year 1920 the Practice Committee appointed a Sub-Committee to consider and report on all questions affecting Housing Fees and Housing matters generally. Of this Sub-Committee Mr. Welch has been a member from the start. In view of Mr. Welch's special knowledge of the problems involved, the Practice Committee, on the recommendation of the Sub-Committee, advised the Council to add Mr. Welch to the deputation to the Ministry of Health. This was done. This Sub-Committee is, of course, the one referred to by the Hon. Secretary as the "Scale of Charges Sub-Committee" as it is the Committee specially charged with the duty of considering the

question of Architects' Charges for Housing Schemes. The Hon. Secretary's statement therefore explained the exact position of affairs.—SECRETARY R.I.B.A.]

The Government's Future Housing Policy.

17, Pall Mall East, S.W.1, 26 July 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—It is not to the interest of the community in general or of the building industry in particular that two astounding statements made by the Minister of Health in his explanation of the Government's future housing policy should be accepted unchallenged.

In his assertions that the Government is performing, in this respect, a work of supreme national importance which private enterprise could not carry out, and that the housing scheme, as now curtailed, will utilise all available labour for at least twelve months, many of us will recognise an attempt to justify failure and an excuse for its abandonment, rather than a candid statement of facts.

Had the Minister stated that this abandonment would be final a grateful public could have afforded to be silent, but his assurance of the intention of Government "to keep the housing problem closely under review" implies, if anything, that the scheme is not dead but sleeping.

The revival of private building enterprise will be coincident with and in ratio to the removal of the disabilities heaped upon it by injudicious legislation, and not the least of these disabilities is the fear of further action by a Minister who suggests that the building operations of a country boasting over two millions of unemployed should be restricted on account of the limitations of available labour.

With the best of intentions we architects have rendered our country but poor service in subscribing to a scheme of which we, at least, should have been able to foresee the disastrous results, and it remains to us to make the *amende honorable* in a frank admission of our mistake and by insistence upon the freedom of private enterprise to erect such houses as our countrymen need and can afford to possess.—Yours, etc.,

JAMES RANSOME [F.]

General Housing Memoranda Nos. 52 and 51.D.

12, Gray's Inn Square, W.C.1, 15 July 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—When the above documents came up for ratification by members at the General Meeting of the Institute, one was astounded to find that, although the Council of the Institute had assured the Ministry of Health that it approved the terms of the documents in question and would lay them before its members for ratification, not one member of the Council was present at the meeting, and it was necessary for the members to elect their own chairman before the business could be commenced.

This state of affairs may have been an accident, but in any case it was most unfortunate.

When this had been done, and the business commenced, we were treated to a series of the lamest recommendations to accept these documents that it has ever been my lot to listen to, and in the course of these "apologies" by some of the members who had constituted the deputation to the Ministry of Health, it became apparent that they were not even agreed amongst themselves, and considered that they could arrange better terms if matters were referred back to them.

The position of Mr. Welch has my sympathy. He was apparently dragged in at the last moment to advise a committee of negotiators how to proceed with business regarding which they had no experience.

Two questions present themselves to my mind:—

(1) Why should the Council of the Institute consent to negotiate upon questions which the members had settled by ratifying Housing Memorandum No. 4?

(2) Had the Council any right to notify the Minister of Health of approval of documents in question without first submitting them to the members at a General Meeting?

I am deeply interested in the settlement of the question of fees on abandoned schemes, and shall be pleased to collaborate with any other members in the mutual protection of our interests, which seem to have been very badly handled by the body to whom we should be able to look for guidance and support.

—Yours faithfully,

JOHN HAROLD KENNARD [F.]

[Mr. Kennard is mistaken. There were several Members of Council present, and five of them—Messrs. Lanchester, Keen, Gibson, Perks, and Lucas—took part in the debate.

With regard to question 1, it may be recalled that the Council consented to negotiate on the revision of General Housing Memorandum No. 4 as a result of a very widespread demand from members who were engaged on rural housing schemes. The improved terms for rural schemes which are embodied in Memorandum No. 31 were the outcome of the renewed negotiations.

With regard to question 2, there is no doubt as to the Council's right to inform the Ministry that they approved the document negotiated by the deputation and would submit it to the General Body for ratification.—SECRETARY R.I.B.A.] *

R.I.B.A. Balance Sheets.

The Guildhall, E.C., 30 June 1921.

To the Editor, JOURNAL R.I.B.A.,—

SIR,—Mr. P. M. Fraser in his letter published in the JOURNAL on the 25th inst. refers to the item of subscriptions in arrear. Messrs. Saffery, Sons and Co., Chartered Accountants, prepare the balance sheet, and I communicated with them. They write me as follows:

"The item 'Subscriptions in arrear' is included in the balance sheet as it represents what the Institute may reasonably expect to receive from this source.

When these arrears are received, they are included in the income of the Institute ; until they are received they are recorded in the balance sheet with the other assets at the figure which it is believed they will ultimately realize. We believe the Institute has the right to sue for the recovery of these arrears. The considerable amount received each year from subscriptions in arrear and included in the income accounts, shews that these arrears have a real value. The Finance Committee from time to time carefully revise the lists of arrears, and only those are included in the balance sheet where there is a reasonable hope of their being subsequently received ; all others are written off as irrecoverable."—Yours obediently,

SYDNEY PERKS [F].
Chairman, Finance Committee.

LETTER TO LICENTIATES R.I.B.A.

Unification and Registration.

Greenhurst, Crawford, Middlesex.

DEAR SIR,—You will no doubt have seen the notice in the Press to the effect that the Committee of the Association of Licentiates R.I.B.A. has requested the President to meet them to discuss certain points in the President's address to the Liverpool Conference. The Committee feels, on the one hand, that it would not be in the interest of unification to raise general discussion until more fully informed of the President's views ; on the other hand, many members are anxious to be assured that the Committee is considering the points raised which are of vital importance to Licentiates.

I am requested to inform you that the Committee will consult with the general body of members at any time they require guidance before taking action, but it does not think that any good purpose can be served by the expression of views until more definite proposals are brought forward.

The representatives of the Licentiates have taken part in the discussions which have led to the adoption of a scheme as a foundation upon which it is hoped to build up unification, and have effectively served the interests of all classes by their agreement with the representatives of others in the acceptance of the scheme.

It is hoped that members of the Association will carefully consider the report of what has been achieved and will hear with patience what is to be said from all points of view, and that even the appearance of sectional differences may be avoided by refraining from public discussion of details more satisfactorily dealt with by reference to the Unification Committee.

The Annual General Meeting will be held in October, when it is hoped that a more definite report may be made to the members of the Association.

Members are requested to communicate to the undersigned any views upon the question of unification or other questions affecting the profession which they think should be dealt with by the Committee.

S. G. SHORT, Hon. Sec.

THE WHITELEY VILLAGE.

The R.I.B.A. Visit.

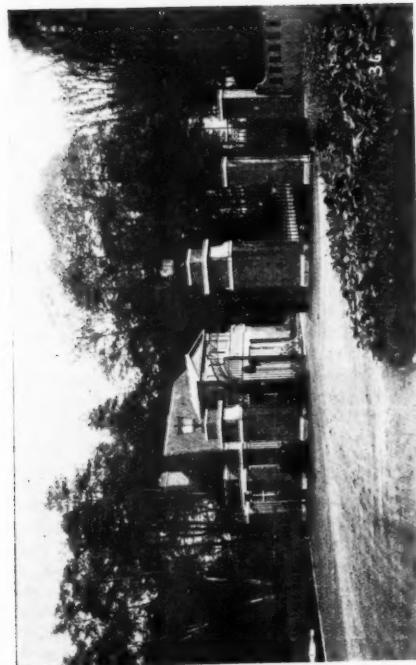
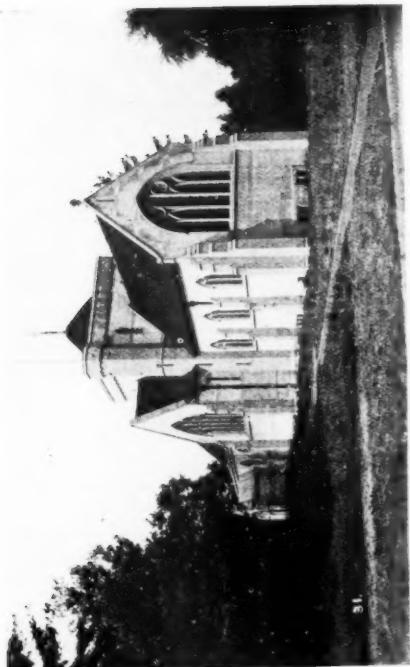
THE third visit arranged by the Art Standing Committee of the Institute took place on Saturday afternoon, 16th July, when some forty persons, including a number of ladies, journeyed to the Whiteley Village near Weybridge. Most of these travelled in the motor-omnibus that started from the Institute at 1.45 p.m. and returned in the evening.

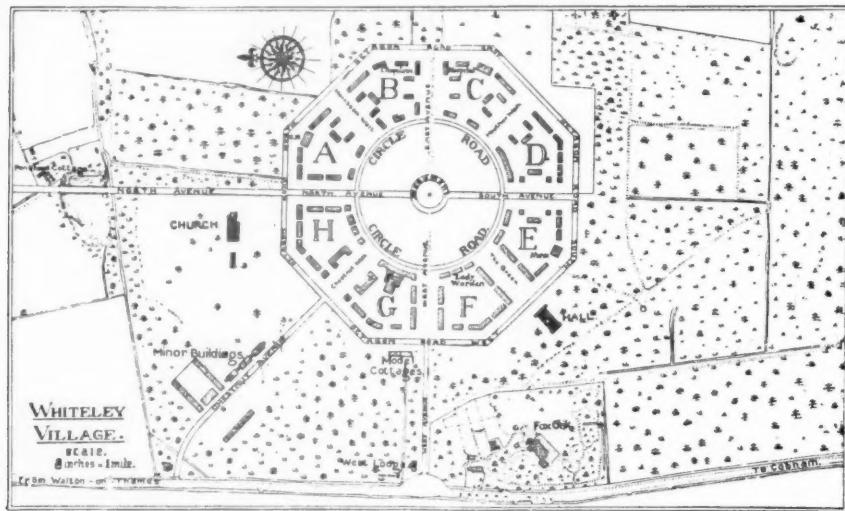
The Whiteley Village is as successful an achievement as one would expect from the brilliant Yorkshire acumen that its founder displayed in building his world-famous emporium. It represents a great idea admirably carried out. The site is perfect for the purpose—a large area of pinewood on a dry and sandy soil, ensuring that even when developed to its maximum extent it will provide healthy and rural surroundings for its inhabitants in their declining years. The very interesting lay-out was the result of a limited competition, decided in 1912 in favour of Mr. Frank Atkinson, F.R.I.B.A. In its original state the site was so thickly covered with pines and undergrowth that a good deal of clearance was necessary, but such of the larger trees as came within the cleared area were spared as far as possible, and, in the case of the beautiful green in front of the Village Hall especially, they greatly enhance the general effect. The centre of the estate is marked by a memorial to the founder, the sculpture by Sir George Frampton, R.A., and the pedestal by Mr. Walter Cave, F.R.I.B.A. Round this central feature is a circular area, at present left in its natural state and covered with rhododendrons and trees. This circular area is bounded by a road, round which are ranged most of the cottages already completed, and an outer road encloses these to form an octagon. From the central memorial two axial avenues lead to the principal gates of the estate, and two more give vistas through the surrounding pine-belt.

The cottages and communal buildings were designed by a group of seven architects : Sir Aston Webb, P.R.A., Sir Ernest George, R.A., Sir Reginald Blomfield, R.A., Mr. Ernest Newton, R.A., Mr. Mervyn Macartney, Mr. Walter Cave, and Mr. Frank Atkinson. In order to secure harmony throughout the scheme, all the buildings were executed in similar materials, thin sand-faced bricks and sand-faced tiles. The designs, too, were agreed between the various architects, and the result presents a very happy example of collaboration. The plans of the various cottages were based on a standard pair designed by Mr. Cave, in which the unit of accommodation and arrangement was settled. With slight variations in certain cases, this consists of a kitchen and sitting room combined, from which opens a bed-recess ; scullery with bath ; a larder ; w.c. ; and accommodation for fuel and refuse. Each cottage has a large porch. The first cottage was occupied towards the end of 1917. By the end of last year 284 tenants had been admitted.

Of the communal buildings the most notable are the

VIEW IN THE WHITELEY VILLAGE





Public Hall, with facilities for cinema displays and the provision of refreshments, and a lending library, designed by Sir Aston Webb; the Village Store or Market, with a communal kitchen and restaurant, by Mr. Cave; the Club House, with reading-room and billiard-room, by Sir Aston Webb; the Church, by Mr. Walter Tapper; and the lodges and gates by Mr. Atkinson. A feature of the Store is the method of heating, the hot water pipes being fixed on the top of the shop fittings instead of at the floor level.

The party was conducted round the Estate by Mr. Walter Cave, with whom were Sir Reginald Blomfield, Mr. Maurice Webb, and Mr. Frank Atkinson—representing the architects of the scheme—and by Mr. Comport, the Clerk of Works.

Those of us who for two years have been struggling with the cheese-paring details of modern housing-schemes felt a real pleasure in seeing this example of "pre-war" building, where genuine architectural materials have been properly used without any regard to expense.

MARTIN S. BRIGGS (F.).

THE LIBRARY.

Notes by Members of the Literature Committee on Recent Acquisitions.

[These notes are published without prejudice to a further and more detailed criticism.]

DER MODERNE THEATERBAU. Mit 142 Illustrationen und 228 Anmerkungen. By Martin Hammitsch. 4o. Berlin. 1907. 6s. 6d. [Ernst Wasmuth, Berlin.]

This book is Part I of a comprehensive work dealing with the modern theatre, but is so far introductory as to deal only with the buildings of the Renaissance, Baroque and Rococo periods of the different European countries. It has an interesting chapter on the early theatres of

England, and a very full account of the activities of the Galli or Bibiena family, who during a century and a half left so strong an impress on scenic and theatric art. The Library has a valuable collection of original drawings by two of the members of that brilliant family. C. H. T.

LICHTSPIELTHEATER: EINE SAMMLUNG AUSGEFUHRTER KINOHAUSER IN GROSS-BERLIN. 109 abbildungen mit text von Hans Schliepmann. 4o. Berlin. 1914. 6s. [Ernest Wasmuth, Berlin.]

A volume also dealing with theatre design, but covering very different ground to the last-mentioned book. It deals with the cinema theatres of Greater Berlin, and largely with their interior treatment and decoration, of which some coloured plates are given. A considerable number of plans are illustrated in this useful volume. C. H. T.

LES MONUMENTS DE ROME APRES LA CHUTE DE L'EMPIRE. Par E. Rodocanachi. La. 4o. Paris. 1914. 20s. [Librairie Hachette et Cie., 79 Boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris.]

In view of the modification of the general title by the words "apres la chute de l'Empire," it is at first sight rather startling to find among the monuments specially described the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the Mausoleum of Augustus, etc. But an examination of the volume shows that in this definition of the title lies one of the special points of interest in the book, which deals with the condition of the Imperial buildings after the fall of the Empire. There are a good many illustrations of ancient Roman monuments from drawings or engravings two or three centuries old (the date given in all cases), showing what was the actual condition of the monument at that date, before more recent excavations and researches. The text goes fully into the history of each of the monuments dealt with, the circumstances (as far as historically known) of its foundation, and the various ordeals it has passed through at the hands of governments and archaeologists. It is thus a treatise with a special line of its own, and of solid value.

H. H. S.

ENGLISH DOMESTIC CLOCKS. By H. Cescinsky and Malcolm R. Webster. 2nd ed. 4o. Lond. 1914. £2 10s. [George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.]

A history of domestic clocks in England from the lantern clock of Cromwell to the Parliamentary clock of the beginning of the 19th century. The book is very fully and excellently illustrated, and there are several extremely interesting plates illustrating in detail the working movements, the development of spandrel ornaments and of clock-hands. There is a list of all the makers illustrated, with their dates.

E. S. H.

LES MOSQUEES DE SAMARCANDE. La. fo. St. Pétersbourg. 1905. £2 2s. [Expédition pour la Confection des Papiers d'Etat.]

These large plates, eighteen in number, with explanatory notes in Russian and French, from the first portfolio of a series illustrating the important but little-known mosques of Samarcand. The mosque of Gour-Emir was commenced by Tamerlane in A.D. 1404 and is one of the most famous buildings of mediaeval Tartary, and contained the tomb of Tamerlane himself. Among the plates are some magnificent illustrations in colour of Persian tiling and other details of craftsmanship, in which Muhammadan architecture always excelled.

M. S. B.

A HISTORY OF CIVILISATION IN PALESTINE. By R. A. S. Macalister, Litt.D., F.S.A. 1921. 2nd ed. 4s. [Cambridge University Press.]

A second edition of a little book that is already recognised as valuable as describing the earlier archaeological history of Palestine, and also touching on the Roman, Byzantine, Moslem, and Crusading epochs. It has been revised and brought up to date in the light of discoveries since its first publication in 1912. Contains a map and nine other illustrations.

M. S. B.

A COLLECTION OF ANTIQUE VASES, TRIPODS, CANDELABRA, ETC. 8o. Lond. 1921. 10s. 6d. [John Tiranti, Maple Street, Tottenham Court Road.]

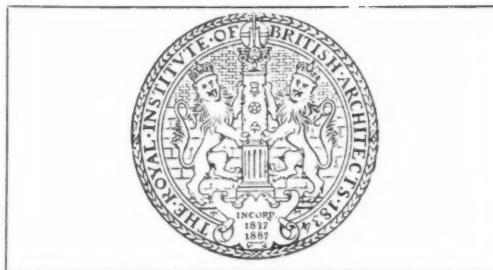
Reproductions of 120 plates, engraved in the early 19th century, by Henry Moses and others. The subjects are vases, candelabra and tripods in the classical manner, mostly antique. Some of the engravings are in pure line, others in the style of Piranesi. The selection seems to have been made with taste.

H. M. F.

LES MONUMENTS HISTORIQUES: CONSERVATION, RESTAURATION. 268 Gravures. Par Paul Léon. 4o. Paris. 1917. £1. [Librairie Renouard, Henri Laurens, Editeur, 6, Rue de Tournon.]

This very important volume, by M. Léon, "Chef des Services d'Architecture au Sous-Sécrétariat d'Etat des Beaux-Arts," is a history of the restoration of historical monuments, as the French understand it. It is fully illustrated, and some of the illustrations, showing buildings before and after "restoration," serve to show how far removed are French ideas on this subject from those of Englishmen who have given it their attention. The book is divided into three parts, dealing with the origins, organisation and work of the Service of Historical Monuments, and must be of great interest to all who care for what is left to us of old French architecture. The concluding sentence offers a ray of hope: "Sous l'influence des doctrines archéologiques, les architectes ont restreint leur action sur les monuments: renonçant à les rajeunir ils se bornent à prolonger leur durée."

H. M. F.



9 CONDUIT STREET, REGENT STREET, W., 30th July 1921.

CHRONICLE.

Liverpool Conference: Message from the King.

The following message to the King was telegraphed from Liverpool on the occasion of the Conference banquet:—

"Royal Institute of British Architects assembled in conference at Liverpool submit their humble duty to His Majesty their Patron with expressions of loyal admiration."

"JOHN W. SIMPSON, President."

His Majesty graciously replied:—

"The President, Royal Institute of British Architects,

"The King has received with much pleasure the loyal message which you have sent to His Majesty from the Royal Institute of British Architects assembled in Conference in Liverpool, and I am to assure you how much His Majesty appreciates the kind sentiments to which your telegram gives expression."

"PRIVATE SECRETARY."

R.I.B.A. Reception and Garden Party.

The company at the Reception and Garden Party held by the President and Council of the Royal Institute in the Gardens of the Zoological Society on Peace Commemoration Day numbered little short of a thousand persons gathered together from all parts of the country. The President, supported by the Vice-Presidents and Hon. Secretary, received the guests in the Society's great Library from 4 to 4.30. This was Mr. Simpson's last public function as President, and numbers of members profited by the occasion to express to him their personal acknowledgments for the inestimable services he has rendered the profession during his term of office. Among distinguished people who accepted invitations were the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, Lord and Lady Milner, Lord Leverhulme, Lord and Lady Riddell, the Lord Mayor of London, Sir Alfred and Lady Mond, Sir Aston and Lady Webb, Sir George and Lady Perley, Dean Inge and Mrs. Inge, Field-Marshal Sir Wm. Robertson, Sir Reginald and Lady Antrobus, Sir Lionel Earle, Sir Edward and Lady Busk, Sir P. O. Lawrence, Sir Ernest and Miss George, Sir David Murray, Sir Arthur and Lady Cope, Sir Alfred Stephenson, Sir James Carmichael, Sir H. T. and Lady Eve, Sir Humphry and

Lady Rolleston, Sir Israel Gollancz, Sir Isidore Spielmann, Sir Anthony A. Bowlby, Sir Philip and Lady Pilditch, Col. Sir Wm. and Lady Smith, Sir Cooper Perry, Sir Charles and Lady Ruthen, Sir Lawrence and Lady Weaver, Sir John and Lady MacAlister, Professor Gerald Moira, and others. The Great Lawn, with its spacious marquee, and the Fellows' Tea Enclosure were reserved for members and guests. By permission of Col. A. C. A. McCalmont, D.S.O., the Band of His Majesty's Irish Guards, conducted by Lieut. Charles H. Hassell, played at intervals during the afternoon and evening. The weather was all that could be desired for a Garden Party, and the opportunity of meeting one's friends and colleagues under such agreeable conditions was greatly enjoyed and appreciated.

Mr. Simpson's Dinner Party.

On the evening of the Garden Party, Mr. John W. Simpson celebrated the conclusion of his term as President by giving a dinner party at the Garrick Club to his colleagues on the Council and other friends. The guests included Mr. Walter Cave; Mr. E. Guy Dawber, F.S.A.; Professor S. D. Adshead; Mr. Arthur Keen; Major Harry Barnes, M.P.; Mr. Max Clarke; Mr. H. P. Burke Downing, F.S.A.; Sir Banister Fletcher; Mr. W. Curtis Green; Mr. J. J. Joass; Mr. Geoffry Lucas; Mr. A. N. Prentice; Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood; Mr. Horace Cubitt; Mr. W. R. Davidge; Mr. E. Stanley Hall; Mr. Ernest Newton, C.B.E., R.A.; Mr. H. T. Buckland; Mr. H. G. Watkins; Mr. Maurice E. Webb, D.S.O., M.C.; Mr. J. S. Gibson; Mr. E. Vincent Harris; Sir Edwin L. Lutyens, R.A.; Mr. Sydney Perks, F.S.A.; Mr. Stanley Hamp; Mr. W. G. Newton, M.C.; Mr. Ian MacAlister, Secretary R.I.B.A.; Mr. Maxwell Ayton.

Notes from the Minutes of the Council Meetings.

4th July 1921.

Architects and the Office of Works.—The Council approved the resolution of the Liverpool Conference on the subject of the Office of Works, and referred it to the Office of Works Committee.

The Associates' Committee.—The Council granted financial assistance to the Associates' Committee to enable them to consult provincial opinion on the proposals for unification and registration.

Provincial Representatives on the Practice Committee.—The Council acted on a suggestion from the Conference of Representatives of Allied Societies to appoint provincial members to serve on the Practice Committee and represent important areas in the United Kingdom.

Illegal Use of R.I.B.A. Affix.—Three cases were reported to the Council in which architects who were not members of the Royal Institute had made use of the R.I.B.A. affix.

The General Council of the National Registration of Plumbers.—Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood, Vice-President, was appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. on the

General Council for the National Registration of Plumbers.

The International Union against Tuberculosis.—Mr. E. T. Hall [F.] and Mr. W. A. Pite [F.] were appointed to represent the R.I.B.A. at the International Conference of the International Union against Tuberculosis in London, 26-28th July.

18th July 1921.

The Scale of Fees for Housing.—The Council received the Resolution of the Special General Meeting on July 4th, and arranged to resume negotiations with the Ministry of Health.

Boards and Committees.—Appointments for the Session 1921-1922 were made.

Examinations.—The results of the Examinations in June and July 1921 were approved; the Ashpitel Prize was awarded to Mr. L. W. Ingham and a mark of distinction to Mr. F. I. Tellery.

Testimonies of Study.—Certain modifications were made in the Testimonies of Study for the Intermediate Examination with a view to facilitating the work of the "Recognised Schools."

Exemptions from the Intermediate Examination.—Exemption was granted to the successful students of McGill and Toronto Universities at the end of the three-years' course in architecture.

The Glasgow School of Architecture.—The five-years' Diploma Course was recognised as exempting from the Final Examination under the usual conditions.

The School at Rome.—It was decided to exempt the holder of the Rome Scholarship in Architecture from the Final Examination under the usual conditions at the conclusion of his three years' study abroad, and the holder of the Henry Jarvis Studentship at Rome after his two years' study abroad, provided that their work is approved by the Board of Architectural Education.

Design Problems in the Final Examination.—It was decided that, subject to the approval of the Council, designs prepared at the Royal Academy Ateliers and also at the "Recognised" Schools may be submitted by candidates for admission to the Final Examination in place of the same number of Problems in Design.

New Allied Societies.—The Institute of Scottish Architects and the Inverness Chapter of the Institute of Scottish Architects were admitted as Allied Societies of the Royal Institute.

Stoppage of the Housing Subsidy.—It was decided to communicate with the Minister of Health in regard to the stoppage of the Housing Subsidy in cases in which an architect has already been employed.

Reinstatement.—Mr. A. Hunter Crawford was reinstated as a Fellow of the Royal Institute.

The Standing Committee on Water Regulations.—Messrs. H. D. Searles-Wood and Max Clarke were appointed to represent the Royal Institute.

St. Paul's, Covent Garden.—The Art Standing Committee were authorised to take action for the preservation of the Building in conjunction with the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

Extension of R.I.B.A. Premises.

At the Council meeting of the Royal Institute on 18th July, the purchase of the perpetual lease of No. 10, Conduit Street was reported by the President, who called the attention of the Council to the valuable services rendered in this matter by Mr. Sydney Perks, Chairman of the Finance and House Committee. It was due, he said, to the energy, foresight and business capacity of Mr. Perks that this much-needed extension was obtained at such a moderate price. The Council recorded a very hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Perks for his services in the matter.

Council Appointments to Standing Committees.

Under the provisions of By-law 51, the Council have made the following additional appointments to the Standing Committees :—

Art Standing Committee.—Messrs. W. J. Tapper [F.], W. A. Forsyth [F.], Alfred Cox [F.], F. R. Hiorns [F.], J. Duke Coleridge [F.]

Literature Standing Committee.—Messrs. H. M. Fletcher [F.], S. C. Ramsey [F.], A. H. Moberley [F.], H. Austen Hall [F.], C. E. Sayer [A.]

Practice Standing Committee.—Messrs. Ivor Jones [F.], Rupert Savage [F.], Francis Jones [F.], T. R. Milburn [F.], A. O. Collard [F.]

Science Standing Committee.—Messrs. J. E. Franck [F.], T. F. H. White [A.], H. A. Saul [F.], Herbert Shepherd [F.], E. Fiander Etchells [Hon. Associate.]

Removal of Building Restrictions.

At a Joint Meeting of representatives of the R.I.B.A., the Society of Architects, the Surveyors' Institution, the Quantity Surveyors' Association, the Institute of Builders, and the National Federation of Building Trades' Employers, on the 9th ult., Mr. H. D. Searles-Wood [F.] in the Chair, among the matters discussed was the prohibition of building operations under Section 5 of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, and it was shown how severely handicapped the building industry generally was owing to the restriction of bricklayers' work by the London County Council and the consequent uncertainty and indecision amongst building owners and others in regard to the placing of contracts. Evidence was given that, except in certain isolated instances, there was no difficulty in obtaining bricklayers, and that the restriction upon brickwork was necessarily having a deterrent effect upon the operation of the scheme for the employment of ex-service trainees, as well as preventing the employment of men in other branches of the industry at a time when everything possible should be done to encourage it. Mr. Searles-Wood undertook to put the views of the meeting before the Ministry of Health, and in a letter of 10th June, addressed to Sir Alfred Mond, he suggested that the Ministry should represent to the London County Council that, in view of the clause in the Housing Bill then before Parliament removing building restrictions, their prohibition of certain building operations should be withdrawn.

Mr. Searles-Wood has since received the following communications from the Ministry of Health and the London County Council :—

Whitehall, S.W.1.: 7th July 1921.

H. D. Searles-Wood, Esq.,—

SIR,—I am directed by the Minister of Health to advert to your letter of the 10th ultimo, with reference to the restriction on building operations, and to state that the Housing Act, 1921, has now received Royal Assent. Section 2 of this Act repeals Section 5 of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, which gave power to local authorities to prohibit building operations which interfered with the provision of dwelling houses.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

*J. C. WRIGLEY,
For Assistant Secretary.*

County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W.1: 7th July 1921.

H. D. Searles-Wood, Esq.,—

SIR,—With reference to previous correspondence on the subject of the construction of certain works or buildings, I am directed to state that in view of the abrogation of the powers of local authorities under Section 5 of the Housing (Additional Powers) Act, 1919, relative to the prohibition of works and buildings which interfere with the provision of dwelling houses, the Council will now raise no further objection to the use of brickwork and the employment of bricklayers in connection with such works or buildings.

This intimation must not be taken as a consent under the London Building Acts or under any other Acts to the carrying out of any works, and is without prejudice to the provisions of such Acts.—I am, sir, your obedient servant,

*JAMES BIRD,
Clerk of the Council.*

Height and Cubical Extent of Buildings in London.

The Building Acts Committee of the London County Council submitted the following report at the Council meeting of the 5th July :—

The Council of the Royal Institute of British Architects have appointed a committee, known as the Building Act Committee, to consider the reform of the London Building Acts, more particularly with regard to the question of higher buildings and buildings of unlimited cubical extent. Section 47 of the London Building Act, 1894, provides that a building (not being a church or chapel) shall not be erected to a greater height than 80 feet (exclusive of two storeys in the roof and of ornamental towers, turrets or other architectural features or decorations) without the consent of the Council. Further, the regulations made by the Council on 22nd February, 1910 (pp. 368-370), under Part III. of the London County Council (General Powers) Act, 1908, provide among other things that a building of the warehouse class in respect of which consent is required to the provision of additional cubical extent beyond 250,000 cubic feet shall not exceed 60 ft. in height measured from the pavement level to the upper surface of the floor of the top-most storey, and that the floor area of any division or cell of such building shall not exceed 20,000 sq. ft.; but the regulations also provide that they may be varied as the Council thinks fit.

The Building Act Committee of the Royal Institute have submitted specific suggestions for modifications in the application of section 47 of the Act of 1894 and of the regulations under Part III. of the Act of 1908. We have discussed the whole question with the representatives of the Building Act Committee, and as the proposals were of great importance from the point of view of fire attack we have

consulted the Fire Brigade Committee, who have also discussed the matter with the Building Act Committee.

As stated above, it is within the discretion of the Council to relax the provisions of section 47 of the Act of 1894, and of the regulations under Part III. of the Act of 1908. Hitherto we have considered on their merits all applications for the exercise of these discretionary powers. After careful consideration of the proposals submitted by the Building Act Committee of the Royal Institute, we did not consider that the circumstances justified action being taken in the direction suggested by that committee, and we have decided to continue the present practice of dealing on its merits with each case which may be submitted to the Council.

Manchester Builders' Endowment of Architectural Travelling Studentships.

The gift of £3,332 by the Manchester District Institute of Builders to Manchester University for the endowment of travelling studentships in the University's School of Architecture, and for the assistance of the general fund of the University, was formally presented last week. The Institute is an association of craftsmen, and the gift is a builders' effort to improve architectural education.

Sir HENRY MIERS, the Vice-Chancellor, speaking at the presentation, said that this generous gift was one of the most significant and promising things for the University since he came to Manchester. It indicated that spirit of co-operation between different sections of the community upon which an institution like a modern university must be dependent. It also indicated the builders' sense of debt and duty to architects, and the architects' sense of their obligation to the craftsmen. He hoped the gift would be regarded as an example to other industries.

Professor A. C. DICKIE [A.], Director of the University School of Architecture, said the gift would place that branch of the University in a sound financial position, equal to that of the best of the architectural schools of the country, which were now replacing the old method of architectural education by pupilage in architects' offices.

The Rome Scholarship and Jarvis Studentship.

The Scheme of Competition in 1922 for the Rome Scholarship in Architecture, offered by the Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1851, and for the Henry Jarvis Studentship, offered by the Royal Institute of British Architects, is as follows:—

The Rome Scholarship will be of the value of £250 per annum, and will be ordinarily tenable at the British School at Rome for three years. Candidates must be British subjects and less than 30 years of age* on 1st July, 1922.

The Jarvis Studentship will be of the value of £250 per annum, and will be ordinarily tenable at the British School at Rome for two years. This Studentship will be confined to Students or Associates of the R.I.B.A. (see section "B"), but otherwise the conditions for the two awards will be the same.

The competition, which will be conducted by the Faculty of Architecture of the British School at Rome, will be in two stages:—

- (a) A preliminary examination open to approved candidates.
- (b) A final competition, open to not more than ten candidates from those competing in the preliminary examination.

(A) THE PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION.

Application to compete in this examination must be

* Admission to compete may be granted at the absolute discretion of the Faculty to candidates over 30 years of age, provided they have spent in War Service at least that number of years by which their age exceeds 30.

made on the prescribed form to the Honorary General Secretary, British School at Rome, 1, Lowther Gardens, Exhibition Road, S.W.7, not later than 1st November, 1921.

The application, containing a statement of the student's qualifications, will be examined by the Faculty of Architecture, in whose absolute discretion lies the granting or refusing of permission to compete.

Due notice will be given to approved candidates of the time and place of the preliminary competition, which will extend over a period of 31 days. The first 12 hours of the examination will be held *en loge* at approved centres, and during this time the candidate will be required to make a sketch design of the subject which will be announced at the opening of the examination, and he will be required to deliver up a tracing of the sketch design at the end of the first 12 hours.

The candidate may choose his own time and place for the execution of the finished designs, which must adhere substantially to the sketch design done on the first day.

The finished designs, together with the sketch designs, will be examined by the Faculty of Architecture, who will make a selection of not more than ten candidates to compete in the final competition.

(B) THE FINAL COMPETITION.

The first part of this competition will be held in London at the Royal Institute of British Architects, and will consist of a continuous examination of 36 hours *en loge*, during which time the candidate will be required to make a sketch design of the subject which will be announced at the opening of the competition. At the end of the 36 hours the candidate will deliver up a tracing of the sketch.

In the second part of this competition candidates will be allowed for the execution of their finished designs a period not exceeding 12 weeks. Candidates may complete their designs, which must adhere substantially to their sketch designs, in their own time and place.

The successful candidate in this competition will be recommended for appointment to the Rome Scholarship, and the Student or Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects who is placed next in order of merit, will be recommended for appointment to the Jarvis Studentship.

GENERAL.

All drawings must be sent to the Honorary General Secretary, British School at Rome, c/o The Secretary, Royal Institute of British Architects, 9, Conduit Street, W.1, at the candidate's expense and will be returned to him at his expense. Due care will be taken of all drawings submitted, but the Faculty will not hold themselves responsible for any loss or damage.

Each drawing must bear a pseudonym. A sealed envelope bearing the pseudonym on the outside and enclosing the name of the candidate and a declaration that the finished designs have been wholly designed and executed by him, must be forwarded to the Honorary General Secretary. Under no circumstances should the sealed envelope be attached to the drawings.

Victoria and Albert Museum : The Guards Memorial.

In connection with the scheme for placing the Guards Memorial on the eastern boundary of St. James's Park, facing the Horse Guards Parade, plans have been prepared by H.M. Office of Works, indicating the proposed site and the alteration to the roadway which will be necessary. The road improvement scheme extends from Birdegate Walk to the Mall, and the southern end has already been dealt with in connection with the new Public Offices. Continuation to the Mall as proposed will result in the addition of about half an acre to the park area exclusive of the lawns in front of the Government buildings. The plans have been placed on exhibition for a few weeks in the Central Court of the Victoria and Albert Museum.

Cricket: R.I.B.A. v. A.A.

The depression of thoughts of Ireland, coal strikes, and general labour troubles, made the idea of a whole day—in mid-week, mind you: none of your Saturday afternoons—given up to a cricket match at Elstree between the R.I.B.A. and the A.A. as welcome as rain in times of drought.

In the last match—in those mythical days before the war—the rival teams, if my memory serves me, were in charge of Sir Reginald Blomfield and Mr. Curtis Green. This year Mr. Green had automatically progressed to the captaincy of the Royal Institute, while the A.A. were led to victory by their new President, Mr. W. G. Newton. A motor 'bus, with "Private" instead of "Putney" on its board, is obviously the only way to go to a cricket match, and the teams were landed on the Association's ground without mishap before noon on 29th June. As, with few exceptions, the form of individual batsmen was an unknown quantity, the first task of the captain, namely, the order of going in, was a bit of a puzzle. How well Mr. Curtis Green, who won the toss, sized up his somewhat heterogeneous collection of architectural cricketers, by one searching look in the face, was a triumph of character reading, as the first three wickets scored over 100 runs, while the tail refused to give even the semblance of a wag, and the Institute was all out soon after lunch for 158.

A. S. Knott and F. N. Young gave the Association a good start, and in spite of great efforts on the part of Mr. Doll, Mr. Robson, and Mr. Hubbard, backed up by somewhat middle-aged fielding on the part of the other members of the R.I.B.A. side, the total was passed with the loss of 6 wickets. The last few wickets soon fell, and the A.A. were victorious by 19 runs.

Then the fun began, as it was decided to start a new match—reversing the order of going in and giving each side three-quarters of an hour to make as many runs as possible in the time—it being understood that only non-bowlers should be allowed to bowl. After an hour and a half of strenuous and exciting cricket on rather unorthodox lines, the Institute won the return match by 8 runs, with two minutes to spare. And so to our motor 'bus again and then to bed, and some at least to the agonies of stiffness as a token of a day well spent.

The A.A. are to be congratulated on an excellent ground, which I gather is now their own property, and only needs a small annual expenditure to make it first-class. Perhaps among games lovers this can be taken as one more reason for assisting the general endowment appeal which has lately been launched.

The following is the score in match No. 1. I fancy all records of match No. 2—if there were any—have been lost.

R.I.B.A.

R.I.B.A.				
M. H. C. Doll, b Parker ..	..	66		
P. W. Hubbard, c & b Crickmay ..	..	14		
J. S. Brocklesby, b Parker ..	..	36		
E. B. Glanfield, c & b Parker ..	..	13		
S. B. K. Caulfield, b Young ..	..	2		
P. A. Robson, b Young ..	..	4		

B. C. E. Bayley, b Young ..	..	1		
H. C. Corlette, c & b Withers ..	..	1		
J. Alan Slater, b Young ..	..	0		
F. W. Hagell, c Horswill, b Withers ..	..	0		
W. Curtis Green, not out ..	..	0		
Extras ..	..	21		
			Total ..	158

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Young	15	5	55
Withers	6.3	2	16
Crickmay	2	0	22
Parker	7	0	44
Extras			3

A.A.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
A. S. Knott, b Doll	64
F. N. Young, c Doll, b Hubbard	26
G. H. Crickmay, c Slater, b Hubbard	5
H. Pakington, b Robson	4
M. Tapper, b Robson	0
J. K. Parker, b Glanfield	61
W. G. Newton, b Doll	6
H. L. Massey, b Glanfield	0
K. G. Withers, b Doll	3
P. Horswill, not out	1
R. A. Livett, b Glanfield	0
Extras	7
			Total ..	177

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
	O.	M.	R.	W.
Hubbard	7	1	40
Robson	14	0	60
Doll	11	1	48
Glanfield	4.2	0	22
				J. A. S.

Exhibition of Architecture, Furniture, &c., at Liége.

The Association of Liége Architects are organising an Exhibition of Architecture, Liége Furniture, and Building Materials to open at the Palais des Beaux-Arts, Liége, on the 13th August. Exhibits of their work have been promised by architects of other countries and the Minister of Railways has undertaken to return such exhibits carriage free.

The exhibits of furniture are to comprise authentic antique pieces set in "interiors" constructed to represent their own period and shown side by side with modern furniture designed after the manner of the famous old Liége examples. The purpose of the promoters is to bring home to the Belgian public the artistic skill of their own local craftsmen which, though appreciated at its true value abroad, there is a tendency to ignore at home. A competition has been organised for cheap furniture suitable for the middle-class dining-room. Designs of every kind have been invited, and as the programme has been widely circulated, the results are awaited with much interest.

Applications have been very numerous, both from Belgian and foreign firms, for stalls in the Building Trades section. This will form Section C, and will constitute a series of bazaars for the display of every kind of material, natural and artificial, in the building art. Several pavilions have been erected in the beautiful Parc de la Boerrie, situated between the Ourthe and the Meuse.

Particulars of the Architectural and Furniture Exhibition may be obtained from the Secretariat-General, 3 rue de la Boerrie, Liége; and for the Building Materials Section from the Secretary, 55 rue Monulphe, Liége.

London University Site.

A meeting of London Members of Parliament was held on the 25th inst. to receive a deputation from the London County Council which urged the desirability of selecting Holland House Estate as the site for London University. The deputation included Captain Swinton, Sir William Collins, Mr. Hudson Lyall, and Mr. A. F. Buxton. It was suggested that the Holland House Estate, with the additional 15 acres on which an option could be secured, was much to be preferred to the Bloomsbury site offered by the Government. The meeting was interrupted by the division bell and the London members promised to have another meeting to go fully into the matter.

District Surveyors.

Consent has been given under section 142 of the London Building Act, 1894, to the appointment of eighteen deputy District Surveyors.

The appointments of Mr. S. F. Monier-Williams [A.], Mr. E. Marsland and Mr. W. J. Hardeastle [F.], District Surveyors for St. Pancras, Camberwell and Westminster West, respectively, have been extended for one year from 8th May, 27th and 3rd July, 1921, respectively.

Mr. C. W. Surrey [A.], District Surveyor of Westminster South, has been appointed interim District Surveyor of Chelsea, and consent has been given to the administration of the latter district from his office in the district of Westminster South, viz., No. 22, Buckingham Gate, S.W.1.

The London County Council is recommended by its Building Acts Committee to increase as from the 1st October the fees payable to the District Surveyors under the London Building Acts by 25 per cent. This is in addition to the 25 per cent. increase provided for in the Council's General Powers Bill.

LEGAL.

Government Buildings, Ottawa, Competition : Competitors' Action for Breach of Contract : Judgment.

SAXE AND ARCHIBALD v. THE KING.

This action arose out of the preliminary competition promoted by the Canadian Government under an Order in Council in 1913 for plans for proposed Departmental and Courts Buildings, Ottawa, the plaintiffs, Messrs. Saxe and Archibald, by a petition of right, seeking to recover the sum of 100,200 dollars as damages resulting from an alleged breach of contract between themselves and the Crown. The case was heard before Mr. Justice Audette in the Exchequer Court of Canada on the 23rd and 25th May last, and judgment was delivered on the 2nd June. Mr. Eugène Lafleur, K.C., and Mr. Gregor Barclay appeared for the plaintiffs, and Mr. Thibaudeau Rinfret, K.C., was retained by the Council of the Royal Institute to assist the plaintiffs and generally to watch the interests of architects. The Attorney-General, the Hon. C. J. Doherty, appeared for the Crown.

From the statement of claim it appeared that in August 1913 the Canadian Government advertised for designs in a preliminary competition for the proposed buildings, competitors to be British subjects practising in the British Empire. The Government had appointed Messrs. T. E. Colleutt, J. H. G. Russell, and J. O. Marchand to draw up the conditions and instructions and to act as assessors. The conditions stated that from the designs submitted in the preliminary competition six would be chosen by the assessors, and the authors would be invited to submit more mature designs in a final competition, for which the five unsuccessful competitors would each receive an honorarium of 3,000 dollars. The author of the design placed

first would be entrusted with the work, which the Government intended carrying out at once, at the usual commission of 5 per cent. If, however, no instructions were given to the successful architect to proceed within twelve months from the date of his selection, or if the proposed work were abandoned, then the selected architect would receive payment of a sum equal to 1½ per cent. on the estimated expenditure. The designs in the first competition were to be delivered in Ottawa by the 2nd April 1914, and the award was to be made within twenty-five days of the date fixed for receiving the designs.

About sixty sets of drawings were sent in, and the assessors made their choice of six. On the 16th April the Minister of Public Works announced in Parliament that the assessors had given their decision. No official notification, however, was made to the successful competitors, and, notwithstanding the condition that the designs were to be kept secret, the whole of the drawings sent in were publicly exhibited in the Parliament House. In the award the architects were designated by numbers only, and the Minister took no steps to ascertain the names of the successful architects, nor were the names ever published. The competition then came to a stop, and no opportunity has ever been given to the selected architects to submit final designs. Messrs. Saxe and Archibald therefore charged the Government with breach of contract, and prayed for a condemnation for damages in the amount above mentioned—which represented their professional charge, under the Architects' Tariff for the Province of Quebec, of 1 per cent. on 10,000,000 dollars, the estimated cost of the buildings, for preparing and furnishing preliminary plans. It was agreed that, in order to avoid costs, only their case would be submitted, and that in the meantime the Government would waive any plea of prescription.

The case finally resolved itself into four questions—viz., (1) Whether there had been a contract. (2) Whether there had been a breach of such contract by the Crown. (3) Whether the contract had been abandoned. (4) Whether the contract, even if it existed, was binding upon the Crown in view of the fact that no previous appropriations by Parliament had sanctioned the intended expenditure.

Mr. Justice Audette, in delivering judgment, cited the Order in Council of 14th April under which advertisements were issued and provision made for appointing assessors and defining their powers and duties. That Order in Council his Lordship held to be the foundation and only source from which the assessors derived their authority. The Order in Council provided that the five most successful competitors would furnish their preliminary designs and would be entitled to be paid 3,000 dollars each after completing the working plans prepared after the second competition. Then after the second competition the best out of the five would be employed to carry out the work. Clause 6 of the conditions materially departed from the Order in Council in providing that the assessors were "to select from the preliminary sketches six designs,"* the authors of which are to be invited to submit final designs, and each of the five unsuccessful architects submitting a design in accordance with these conditions shall receive an honorarium of 3,000 dollars." That part of the conditions which purported to change the terms of the Order in Council was *ultra vires*, null and void. It was beyond the power of both the Minister and the assessors to vary and change the remuneration of the successful competitor.

Dealing with the plaintiffs' claim of 100,200 dollars, his Lordship said that if the plaintiffs were entitled to recover, the other five competitors who were in the same position would also be entitled to recover upon the same basis. Hence the total amount the Crown would be called upon to pay under the advertisement inviting preliminary sketches would be 601,200 dollars and even then would not have working plans to start the erection of the buildings. His

* Counsel for the Crown admitted that the number was given in the conditions as six, but that he did not intend raising any objection to it.

Lordship asked if that could be said to be the meaning, the spirit of the contract which resulted from the advertisement? If in the light of the evidence an absurd result would be arrived at by adopting a certain construction, the Court must be zealous to reach another conclusion by a reasonable and sensible construction of the intentions of the parties to the instrument (*Yates v. The Queen*). Under such circumstances if there was a reasonable and sensible construction of this alleged contract, and also an absurd one, the Court should lean to the reasonable and sensible construction apart from anything else.

The solution of the controversy, however, his Lordship said, could be readily arrived at from a legal standpoint. Under the Order in Council all that the successful competitors were entitled to recover, as a prize, was 3,000 dollars for their successful preliminary designs, after they had been completed, under the second competition, by working plans. As a condition precedent to any one of the successful competitors in the preliminary competition to become entitled to the 3,000 dollars, the award of the assessors was subject to the approval of the Minister of Public Works, and there was no evidence that the Minister had ever approved of the award or had ever been asked to do so by the plaintiffs. Only one of the architects chosen in the preliminary competition could in the result be successful, and the plaintiffs could not succeed because the assessors were not bound to accept their plans. As a further condition precedent to any enforceable obligation arising in favour of the architect who submitted the best preliminary plans (a matter which still remained undetermined) there must take place a final competition, and the final plans must also have received the approval of the Minister of Public Works. Still a third condition precedent prevented the plaintiffs recovering—viz., there were now six successful competitors; but if in the final competition the plaintiffs were ranked last, or *sixth*, they would be out of court entirely, because the Order in Council only provided for the first *five* competitors, and the Order in Council must prevail over the conditions, and yet the rank of the plaintiffs had never been determined and there was nothing to show where the plaintiffs stood.

Dealing with the question whether or not there were reasonable grounds for not proceeding more expeditiously with the scheme, his Lordship said the Court had a right to take judicial notice of the great war, and he found that the Crown was absolutely justified in not proceeding with the scheme, which would involve an expenditure of several millions of dollars, at a time when the Exchequer was overburdened with the debts occasioned by the war. He found that those circumstances operated as an impossibility of performance, and that the plaintiffs were not entitled to any portion of the relief sought; but through the benevolence of the Crown expressing its willingness to pay them 3,000 dollars, there would be judgment accordingly. The offer to pay 3,000 dollars was made by the statement in defence, and it should carry costs to the plaintiffs up to that stage of the case. All other claims set up by the plaintiffs would be dismissed without costs to either party.

R.I.B.A. Travelling Card.

Members, Licentiates, Students and Probationers desiring facilities to sketch, measure, or otherwise examine notable buildings or monuments in the British Isles in pursuit of their studies can obtain from the Institute a travelling card available for a stated period. Applications for the card must be made in writing to the Secretary R.I.B.A. Cards for travel abroad were instituted a great many years ago, but those now issued for use in the United Kingdom are a recent innovation and due to a suggestion of Mr. Ernest Newton, C.B.E., R.A. [F.]

THE EXAMINATIONS.

The Intermediate.

The Intermediate Examination, qualifying for registration as Student R.I.B.A., was held in London from the 10th to the 16th June. Of the forty-six candidates who presented themselves sixteen passed and thirty were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows, the names being given in order of merit as placed by the Examiners:—

CHESTER: Harold William [P. 1920], Emberfield, Broom Road, Hampton Wick, Middlesex.
 BUTTON: Eustace Harry [P. 1920], 1 Royal York Crescent, Clifton, Bristol.
 CONOLLY: Harold [P. 1920], Werneth House, Walton, Wakefield.
 KEAY: Cyril Francis McLaren [P. 1917], 21 Danes Hill Road, Leicester.
 OSBORNE: Cyril Charles George [P. 1912], Dept. of Architecture, The University, Sheffield.
 LANDER: Felix James [P. 1913], 157 Baldoak Road, Letchworth.
 WERRY: William John [P. 1920], 33 Hubert Road, East Ham, E.6.
 PARKER: John Herbert [P. 1916], Victoria Hotel, Exeter.
 STEELE: Harold Rooksby [P. 1914], 87 Victoria Street, S.W.1.
 COCK: John Charles Pascoe [P. 1913], 8 Maristow Avenue, Devonport.
 KEMP: Sidney James, M.M. [P. 1919], 118 Albany Street, Regent's Park, N.W.1.
 WATSON: Edwin [P. 1917], 60 Orchard Road, Erdington, Birmingham.
 METCALFE: John Armstrong [P. 1920], 29 Ruthin Gardens, Cardiff.
 FIELDSEND: Henry [P. 1915], "Masons' Arms," Ackworth, Pontefract, York.
 WRIGLEY: Fred Hildred [P. 1921], 1 Savile Terrace, Stanley Road, Wakefield.
 EASDALE: Robert Geoffrey [P. 1920], "Ardenholme," Smawthorne Lane, Castleford, Yorks.

The Final and Special.

The Final and Special Examinations, qualifying for candidature as Associate R.I.B.A., were held in London from the 23rd to the 30th June. Of the 22 candidates admitted, 9 passed the entire examination, 1 passed Part I. (having elected, in accordance with the Regulations, to take the Examination in two parts), and the remaining twelve were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows:—

FERGUSON: Robert Wemyss [S. 1911], 41 Ladysmith Road, Blackford Hill, Edinburgh.
 HENDERSON: James Murdoch Dalziel [Special], 1 Holmston Road, Ayr.
 INGHAM: Lawrence William [S. 1907], 1 Strathmore, Sutton, Co. Dublin.
 KERR: James Aubrey [Special], c/o Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.
 MASTER: Chimanlal Motiram [S. 1919], 21 Birchington Road, N.W.6.
 PLUMLEY: Donald John Grant [Special], 38 Margravine Gardens, Baron's Court, W.14.
 TELLERY: Frank Ignatz [Special], 16 Ormonde Mansions, 106 Southampton Row, W.C.
 WILKINSON: Fred [S. 1916], 162 Long Lee Terrace, Keighley.
 WILLIAMSON: John [Special], County Hall, Cardiff.
 MACDONALD: Alister Gladstone [S. 1921], 9 Howitt Road, Hampstead, N.W.3. Passed in Part I.

The Special War Examination.

The Special War Examination (for Students whose studies had been interrupted by the war) was held in London from the 4th to the 8th July. Of the 122 candidates admitted 106 passed and 16 were relegated. The successful candidates are as follows:—

ADAMS: Ernest Harry, 3 Beatrice Avenue, Norbury, S.W.16.
 ARMSTRONG: Edward Joseph, Lendal Chambers, York.
 ATKIN-BERRY: Henry Gordon, 16 Eaton Terrace, S.W.1.
 AULD: Alexander Cosmo Smith, 7 Milton Road, N.6.
 BAILEY: Clarence Howard, 37 Northview Drive, West-cliff-on-Sea.
 BARBER: Cecil, 76 Kirkstall Lane, Kirkstall, Leeds.
 BARNETT: Richard Reginald, 13 Grafton Road, Acton, W.3.
 BATTY: John, 145 Dover Road, Northfleet, Kent.
 BATZER: Albert Edward, 7 Hobart Place, Grosvenor Gardens, S.W.
 BICKERTON: Walter Crane, 16 Lower Oxford Street, Castleford, Yorks.
 BLACKETT: Johnson, 45 Pool Bank, Port Sunlight, Cheshire.
 BLOMFIELD: Austin, 51 Froginal, Hampstead, N.W.3.
 BOTTING: Milton, Suncroft, Pollard Road, Mitcham.
 BOWES: Trevor Straker, 103 Connaught Road, Roath Park, Cardiff.
 BRADEN: Keith Arnold, Rosedene, S. Woodford, Essex.
 BRIDGMAN: Gerald Soudon, "Carlyon," Cadwell Road, Paignton.
 BROADBENT: Godfrey Lionel, 23 St. Peter's Mount, Bramley, Leeds.
 BROWN: Kenneth Henderson, 22 Dessowood Place, Aberdeen.
 BROWN: Leonard John, 172 Ribblesdale Road, S.W.16.
 BRYAN: George Albert, 17 Rosedew Road, Hammersmith, W.6.
 BURGESS: Haydn Mervyn Rhys, 29 Richard Street, Cilfynydd, Pontypridd.
 BUTLER: Cecil George, 28 Vereker Road, Baron's Court, W.
 BUTLIN: Frederick George Montague, "Naseby," Woodberry Way, N. Finchley, N.12.
 CAMPBELL: John, 54 Hill Street, Withington, Manchester.
 CARTER: Charles Shirley, 124 Sunnyhill Road, Streatham, S.W.
 CHALLEN: Harold Bertram, 73 Oakhill Road, Putney, S.W.15.
 CHANNON: Eric Usher, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1.
 CHARLTON: Ernest Stewart, 16 Garth Street, Taffs Well, Glam.
 CHEERS: Wilfroy Anson, "Pinemoor," Cornwall Road, Harrogate.
 CHILD: Frederick Austin, 15 Albion Road, North Shields.
 CLARK: Robert Gibson, The Gardens, Fenay Hall, Fenay Bridge, Huddersfield.
 COLLINS: Owen H., 61 Old Broad Street, E.C.
 COOKSEY: Reginald Arthur, c/o Architectural Association, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1.
 CROSSMAN: Cyril John, 4 The Grove, Blackheath, S.E.10.
 DARBYSHIRE: Thomas Schofield, 173 Crowborough Road, Tooting Common, S.W.
 DAVIES: Idris, Hillwood, Lyonsdown Road, New Barnet.
 DAWBARN: Graham Richards, 8 Station Road, Sidcup.
 DAWSON: Harvey Alexander, 35 Great James Street, W.C.1.
 DEAN: Francis Moorhouse, 22 Kilmartin Avenue, Norbury, S.W.16.
 DONALD: James, Robert Gordon's Technical College, Aberdeen.
 DRAKE: Francis Milverton, State Buildings, P.W.M., Cairo.
 DURAND: Arthur Henry, 22 Orchard Street, W.1.
 EASTON: John Murray, Ulster Chambers, 168 Regent Street, W.1.
 EBERLIN: Albert Edgar, 16 Park Terrace, Nottingham.
 EPRILE: Cecil Jacob, 3 Seymour Mansions, Boscombe Road, W.12.
 FAWCETT: George Herbert, 102 Westborough, Scarborough.
 FORSHAW: John Henry, Merridale, Burscough Road, Ormskirk, Lancs.
 FREAR: Ernest, 110 Radcliffe Road, West Bridgford, Notts.
 FREW: James Allen, Burngreen, Kilsyth, Scotland.
 GALE: George Alex, 19 Highbury Terrace, N.5.
 GALLIE: Charles Robertson, Robert Gordon's Technical College, Aberdeen.
 GRESSWELL: Hugh, 77 Huron Road, Balham, S.W.17.
 HARMAN: George Thomas, "The Myrtles," The Avenue, St. Margaret's-on-Thames.
 HARRIS: Morgan Rhys Howell, Leicester House, 6 Bedford Place, W.C.1.
 HARVEY: John Lyne, 74 Longridge Road, Earl's Court, S.W.5.
 HEDGES: Walter Frederick, P.W.D. Accra, Gold Coast Colony.
 HEYSHAM: Terence Ernest, 44 Lancaster Road, S.E.27.
 HILL: Oliver, 23 Golden Square, W.1.
 HINWOOD: Neville, Lyford, Park Farm Road, Kingston-on-Thames.
 HIORN: Percival Theodore, 16 Oakfield Road, Stroud Green, N.4.
 HORTH: Harold Edwin, 21 Salisbury Street, Hull.
 HUMPHRY: Harold Walter, Holmewood, Marius Road, Balham, S.W.17.
 HUNT: Stanley, Richmond House, 11 Powell Road, Clapton, E.5.
 HYDE: Sidney, 97 Moray Road, Finsbury Park, N.4.
 JACKSON: Reginald, 1 South Esplanade, Peckitt Street, York.
 JOHNSON: Frank Leslie, 43 Courthope Road, Hampstead, N.W.3.
 JONES: Harold, Bierton, near Aylesbury, Bucks.
 LAMB: Herbert Arthur John, 26 Porchester Square, W.2.
 LECKENBY: Cecil, 7 Cameron Grove, York.
 LOGAN: James, M.C., 68 Torrington Square, W.C.1.
 MANN: William Roderick John, 2 Lorne Terrace, Sunderland.
 MATHEWS: Benjamin Kenny Ollard, 7 Montpelier Row, Blackheath, S.E.
 MAUGER: Paul Victor Edison, 250A Gloucester Terrace, W.2.
 MEALAND: Henry Anthony, University College, Gower Street, W.C.
 MEIKLE: Joseph Abraham, 9 Caulton Avenue, Clapham Common, S.W.
 MENDHAM: John Bernard, 4 Salem Mansions, Moscow Road, W.2.
 MITCHELL: George Angus, 4 Dermont Terrace, Aberdeen.
 MURRAY: Keith Day Pearce, c/o Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1.
 NEEDHAM: Charles William Cashmore, 29 High Ousegate, York.
 PICKFORD: Leonard, 108 Fernside Road, Wandsworth Common, S.W.
 PINFOLD: Stanley, 317 Camden Road, N.7.
 PLEDGE: Charles Terry, 88 Algernon Road, Ladywell, S.E.
 PROSSER: Donald Sydney, 6 Harvist Road, N.W.6.
 QUICK: Norman Dennis, Leicester House, 6 Bedford Place, W.C.
 RIDGE: Thomas, Bank Chambers, Oswestry.
 SHARP: Francis George, "Ingleholme," Brockley View, S.E.23.
 SHEPPARD: Everard, c/o Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1.
 SKINNER: Cedric George, 25 Sutherland Place, W.2.

SMALL: William, 73A South Side, Clapham Common, S.W.4.
 SNELL: Alfred, 21 Tollington Place, N.4.
 SOUTAR: Charles Geddes, 10 Reform Street, Dundee.
 STABLEFORD: Charles Henry, 26 Hotham Road, Putney, S.W.15.
 STOCKER: Alexander, 35 Waldemar Avenue, Fulham, S.W.6.
 STREETER: Frederick Robert, 41 Westbourne Gardens, Bayswater, W.
 SUNDERLAND: Cyril, 23 York Crescent, King Cross, Halifax.
 SYKES: Mark Neville, 75 Cardigan Road, Leeds.
 SYMONDS: James Blakemey, 111-113 Denmark Hill, S.E.5.
 TAYLOR: Wm. John, Robert Gordon's Technical College, Aberdeen.
 TOWLE: Charles Raymond, c/o Architectural Association, 35 Bedford Square, W.C.1.
 WINCH: Kenneth Mark, 56 Stevenage Road, Fulham, S.W.6.
 WISEMAN: Arthur Eric, 15 Glebe Road, Chelmsford.
 YEATS: John, 13 Springbank Terrace, Aberdeen.
 YOUNG: Cedric John Mathieson, 42 Tay Street, Perth.
 YOUNG: Frederic Newall, 34 Bedford Square, W.C.1.

The Board have recommended that the Ashpitel Prize be awarded to Mr. L. W. Ingham, of Dublin, he being the candidate who has most highly distinguished himself in the Final Examination; and that the Thesis mark of distinction be given to Mr. F. I. Tellery, of London.

The Final: Alternative Problems in Design.

Subject LVIII.

(a) Across a roadway in an important town, 15 yards wide between the curbs, with pavements 15 feet on either side in a street, it is proposed to erect a (temporary) TRIUMPHAL ARCH, in honour of the King, who is to pass that way for some commemorative

occasion. The materials used are to be wood for the structure and plaster for the decoration. Colour may be used. Show the method of construction, as well as the finished effect.

Drawings: $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale, with key plan and elevation to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale.

(b) A HOSTEL for 50 WOMEN STUDENTS in connection with a University College in a provincial town. Common room, dining room, library, two small parlours (one for the superintendent), cubicle bedrooms, kitchen and accommodation for staff.

Drawings: $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale; $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch details.

Subject LIX.

(a) A CITY SQUARE, 150 yards W. to E. and 75 yards N. to S., is to be laid out as a garden—to be turfed and planted with trees and shrubs—the west side to have a long stone colonnaded shelter with seats: provide a drinking fountain. The site was at one time a reservoir and the general area is therefore 3 feet lower than the streets. The square is surrounded by streets 50 feet wide. Those on the east and west run through the square. Lay-out to 32 feet to an inch. Colonnade to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch and $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale.

(b) A METEOROLOGICAL STATION at the seaside, standing near the base of a pier and comprising two offices, a tower for anemometer and a seamen's club (not residential) with bureau of information as to weather, shipping, etc., which is to be connected, by wire, with a wireless station.

Drawings: $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale and $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch details, with block plan to $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale, showing relation to pier.

Subject LX.

(a) A LOCAL MUSEUM is to be built in a country town—there are no antiquities to be housed—museum to contain collections of the fauna (stuffed) and flora (painted) and insects in cabinets; and there is to be a library to hold the books dealing with the locality. Spaces in the Library for portraits of local celebrities must be taken into account.

Drawings: $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale with $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale details, including a roof section.

(b) A VILLAGE PUBLIC HALL set back 5 yards from the high road, to seat 200, capable of being used also for dramatic and cinematographic entertainments. Connected with this is to be a matrons' meeting room: kitchen to be used as a room for instruction in cookery; scullery and other offices; boys' workshop to hold two carpenter's benches and two lathes; caretaker's residence; heating by radiators, lighting and cooking by gas.

Drawings: $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch scale and $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch details.

Dates for Submission of Designs in 1921-22.

	Subj. LVIII.	Subj. LIX.	Subj. LX.
United Kingdom	31st Aug.	31st Oct.	31st Dec.
Johannesburg	31st Oct.	31st Dec.	28th Feb.
Melbourne	30th Nov.	31st Jan.	31st Mar.
Sydney	30th Nov.	31st Jan.	31st Mar.
Toronto	30th Sept.	30th Nov.	31st Jan.

Architectural Association School of Architecture.

The following awards of Prizes are announced:—

PUBLIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP, value £63.—R. T. Westenday (Charterhouse).

OPEN ENTRANCE SCHOLARSHIP, value £63.—W. E. Palmer (Royal Masonic School).

A. A. ESSAY PRIZE, open to all Students, value £10 10s.—Miss I. M. Chambers.

FIRST YEAR COURSE:

1st Prize, "Howard Colls" Travelling Studentship, value £15 15s.—A. E. Cameron.

2nd Prize, Books, value £5 5s.—R. F. Orfeur.

Art Subjects, value £3 3s.—R. F. Orfeur.

General Progress Books, value £2 2s.—E. Walmsley

Lewis.

Scholarship tenable for one year in Second Year Course, value £63.—L. J. Young.

SECOND YEAR COURSE:

1st Prize, A. A. Travelling Studentship, value £26 5s.—R. E. Enthoven.

2nd Prize, Books, value £10 10s.—Hon. H. A. Pakington.

Art Subjects, Books, value £5 5s.—R. E. Enthoven.

General Progress Books, value £3 3s.—A. S. Knott.

Scholarship tenable for one year in Third Year Course, value £63.—L. R. Hiscock.

THIRD YEAR COURSE:

1st Prize, "Henry Florence" Travelling Studentship, value £50.—J. C. Shepherd.

2nd Prize, Books, value £21.—C. G. C. Hyslop.

3rd Prize, Books, value £15 15s.—C. S. White.

General Progress Books, value £5 5s.—M. R. H. Harris.

"Henry Jarvis" Scholarship given by R.I.B.A., value £50.—E. U. Channon.

"Alec Stanhope Forbes" Prize for best colour work during year, Books, value £5.—K. D. P. Murray.

Scholarship tenable for one year in 4th Year Graduate Course, value £63.—D. Petrovitch.

FOURTH YEAR COURSE:

Design, 1st Prize, value £5 5s.—Miss E. G. Cooke.

2nd Prize, value £3 3s.—W. Percik.

Construction, value £5 5s.—N. C. Mackey.

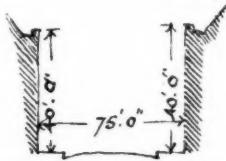
Colour, value £3 3s.—Cecil Smith.

FIFTH YEAR COURSE:

Design, value £5 5s.—Stanley Natusch.

Town Planning, 1st Prize, value £55s.—Stanley Natusch.

2nd Prize, value £3 3s.—C. M. Masters.



A. A. DIPLOMAS awarded to Stanley Natusch, J. H. White, Bernard George.

A. A. PRIZE IN DESIGNS awarded A. J. Saise at the Royal West of England Academy School of Architecture (affiliated with the Architectural Association).

University of London: The Bartlett School of Architecture.

The following awards have been made:—

Lever Prizes.—In Architecture. A. R. Dent. In Town Planning.—First: W. Harding Thompson. Second: E. C. Tasker.

Donaldson Silver Medal.—A. G. Macdonald.

Herbert Batsford Prize.—J. B. Cooper.

Andrew Taylor Prizes.—Second Year Student: F. Jenkins. Third Year Student: S. Hyde.

Ronald Jones Prizes.—Renaissance: F. Jenkins. Mediaeval: C. P. J. Fahy.

Certificates in Architecture, recognised by the Royal Institute as exempting from the Intermediate Examination, have been obtained by:—

Gwendolen M. Adshead, H. G. Blizzard, G. T. Brown, R. J. Bunce, W. C. Childs, V. G. Cogswell, G. A. Crockett, E. E. Edmunds, C. P. J. Fahy, G. H. Fielder, M. C. Glover, F. Jenkins, J. L. Kelf, E. Kirby, A. L. Knott, O. W. H. Law, H. Lewin, Breta G. Merrylees, R. J. H. Minty, S. L. Palmer, P. N. Patker, L. F. Shroff, J. R. M. Simpson, L. L. T. Sloot, E. R. Taylor, Katharine M. Wallis, O. M. Welsh, T. J. R. Winn, F. T. Winter.

Certificates in Town Planning have been obtained by:—H. A. Mealand, E. C. Tasker, R. W. Vanes, R. B. Walker (with distinction).

MINUTES. XVII.

At a Special General Meeting summoned by the Council under By-law 65 and held Monday, 4th July 1921, at 8 p.m.—Present: Mr. H. V. Lanchester, Past Vice-President, in the Chair; 27 Fellows (including 6 members of the Council), 31 Associates (including 1 member of the Council), and 4 Licentiates—the Minutes of the Meeting held 29th June were taken as read and signed as correct.

The Hon. Secretary announced the death of Sir Herbert Bartlett, member of the firm of Messrs. Perry & Co., Building Contractors, and referred to his benefactions to architecture as founder of the Bartlett School of Architecture, University of London.

The death was also announced of Robert Pledge Notley, elected Associate in 1868 and Fellow in 1873, and for many years District Surveyor of St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, and a member of the R.I.B.A. Board of Statutory Examiners.

The regrets of the Institute for the loss of these gentlemen was ordered to be entered on the Minutes of the Meeting.

The Chairman, in accordance with notice, formally moved the following resolutions:—

(1) That Clause 9 of the Scale of Professional Charges be altered to read as follows: "In the case of housing schemes and laying out estates special arrangements may be required in exceptional circumstances, but for ordinary purposes the scales of fees are the same as those set out in the Ministry of Health's General Housing Memoranda No. 31, No. 51/D and No. 52."

(2) That the Ministry of Health's General Housing Memoranda No. 31, No. 51/D and No. 52, setting out the fees payable to architects in connection with State-aided housing schemes, as agreed with the Ministry of Health by the R.I.B.A. and the Society of Architects, be incorporated as an Appendix to the Scale of Professional Charges published in the R.I.B.A. KALENDAR.

Mr. James S. Gibson [F.] seconded the motion.

Mr. Herbert A. Welch [A.] moved as an amendment that the matter be referred back to the Council for further consideration.

Mr. W. G. Watkins [A.] having seconded, a discussion ensued, and the amendment having been put to the vote was declared lost.

Mr. Sydney Perks [F.] moved as an amendment "That this General Meeting declines to alter the Scale of Charges by approving Memoranda 52 and 51/D and calls on the Council to repudiate the statement that the Royal Institute of British Architects had agreed to them."

Mr. G. H. Kennard [F.] having seconded, the amendment was put to the Meeting and carried *nem. con.*

The amendment was then put as the substantive motion and carried.

The proceedings closed at 10.10 p.m.

The Meeting convened for the 27th June to confirm Resolutions amending By-laws relating to Hon. Associates did not take place, the quorum required by By-law 58 not having been constituted. The Resolutions will be brought up again early in the new session.

Appointment.

The President of the Royal Institute has been appointed a Vice-President of the Public Works, Roads and Transport Congress to be held from 17th to 25th November 1921.

Professional Announcements.

Mr. H. D. Scarles-Wood [F.] has transferred his office from 157 Wool Exchange, Coleman Street, to Painters' Hall Chambers, 8 Little Trinity Lane, E.C.4. Telephone: Central 2365.

Mr. H. S. East [A.] has left England for Tasmania, and his address in future will be c/o the Union Bank of Australia, Launceston, Tasmania.

Mr. Cyril A. Farey [A.] has transferred his office to 12 Hart Street, Bloomsbury, W.C. Telephone: Museum 5685.

Mr. W. T. Loveday [A.] has opened an office at 28 Albert Street, Rugby.

Mr. Edwin J. Dod [A.] notifies change of address from Exchange Buildings, to 51 North John Street, Liverpool. Telephone: Bank 3479.

Mr. Henry J. Chetwood [F.] has transferred his office from 5 Bedford Row to 1 Montague Street, Russell Square, W.C.1. Telephone: Museum 196.

The Architects' and Surveyors' Assistants' Professional Union have removed from Sanctuary House, Tothill Street, to 36 Victoria Street, Westminster.

Erratum.

Notice of Nicholas Hawksmoor, p. 485: for Castle Howard, Cumberland, read Castle Howard, Yorkshire.

A YOUNG Danish Architect now in this country is desirous of entering an architect's office for the purpose of gaining experience in English work. Has a good knowledge of construction and design. Was for 18 months at the School of Architecture of the Royal Academy, Copenhagen.—Address Box 471, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A., 9, Conduit Street, W.

ASSOCIATE, in private practice, during temporary slackness of business wishes to get into touch with more fortunate members of the profession who, unwilling to temporarily increase their staffs, would be glad to employ the services of a draughtsman through postal channels. References if desired.—Address Box 123, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

A.R.I.B.A. ex-officer desires appointment. In addition to architecture qualified to undertake research, secretarial, and publicity work. Extensive experience in housing. Highest references given.—Address Box 671, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

ASSISTANT Architect seeks post abroad; preferably Near East; A.R.I.B.A.; unmarried.—Address Box 187, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A. FURNISHED Office, ground floor, Belgrave Road, near Victoria Station: £2 2s. per week; electric light and 'phone; quarterly tenancy.—Apply G. De Wilde, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

POSITION as Office Boy in an Architect's Office wanted for youth of 16 with taste for draughtsmanship. Salary required 15s. per week. Address Box 257, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

A FIRM of Architects having commodious offices in Russell Square, with more accommodation than they require, would be glad to share same with other Architects, subject to approval of their landlords. One or two good sized North lighted rooms, each with store cupboard, could be allotted, at a rental of £65 per annum per room, including central heating, electric lighting and cleaning. Address Box 271, c/o Secretary R.I.B.A.

